DÁIL ÉIREANN

Déardaoin, 5 Samhain, 2026
Thursday, 5th November, 2026

CEISTEANNA
QUESTIONS

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH TOSAÍOCHT DÓIBH
QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

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

1. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the plans to reintroduce an electricity credit; the reason he did not introduce one as part of Budget 2027; if he will make any reforms to Ireland's energy market to bring down prices; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78102/26 | PA DALY

2. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he will provide reassurance that the Heat (Networks and Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill will continue to be prioritised in this Dáil term to provide certainty to the nine pilot district heating projects currently under development, the Dublin district heating scheme, and for the expansion of the Tallaght district heating scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78244/26 | CIARÁN AHERN

3. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the assessment that has been conducted of the resilience of Ireland's critical infrastructure to severe weather events and storms; and whether additional investment in grid resilience is planned.

PQ78103/26 | PA DALY

4. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment when he will finalise the review and approval for sale and use of plug-in photovoltaic (PIPV) solar panels in Ireland.

PQ78605/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

5. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the steps he is taking to address the fact that data centre demand is outpacing growth in renewable energy; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78104/26 | PA DALY

6. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the further measures he intends to introduce to reduce electricity costs for households and SMEs, particularly given the impact of high energy prices on Irish competitiveness; and whether he will examine network charges and other regulated costs contributing to electricity bills.

PQ77683/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

CEISTEANNA EILE
OTHER QUESTIONS

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 actions he is taking to accelerate delivery of offshore wind projects, given continued concerns regarding planning delays, grid connections and infrastructure bottlenecks; and if he will provide a timeline for the first projects becoming operational.

PQ78164/26 | PA DALY

8. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he is aware of recent comments made by the head of a company (details supplied); and if he agrees with this assessment.

PQ78163/26 | PA DALY

9. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he, or his senior officials, have had meetings with the national waste collection permit office since March 2025.

PQ78319/26 | MATT CARTHY

10. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment to assist with ever rising electricity costs.

PQ78317/26 | MATT CARTHY

11. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment for an update on the delivery of the North South Interconnector project.

PQ76814/26 | DAVID MAXWELL

12. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he is aware of recent comments by Wopke Hoekstra, the EU Climate Commissioner, and EU commissioner Dan Jørgensen who have confirmed that member states can take measures to tackle windfall profits of energy companies; if he will therefore reintroduce the cap on market revenues; if not, to outline the reasons; and if he will make a statement on the matter

PQ78166/26 | PA DALY

13. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment for an update on the use of data centres in Dublin; and to outline the increased cost to consumers.

PQ78246/26 | MARK WARD

14. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment for an update on the North South Interconnector project.

PQ77397/26 | DARREN O'ROURKE

15. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the amount of the SEAI home energy upgrade allocation for 2026 drawn down to date; the number of home energy upgrades completed to date in 2026 compared with the target for the year; and the measures in place to ensure the Budget 2027 capital allocation is spent in full, in view of the underspend recorded by SEAI in 2025.

PQ77838/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

16. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the reason individual applicants in some areas, particularly rural areas, continue to face significant delays before they can avail of the solar PV for the medically vulnerable scheme.

PQ78178/26 | PEARSE DOHERTY

17. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment for consideration of the measures available under the SEAI Traditional Homes Pilot to be made available through the warmer homes scheme and the individual energy upgrades given the current pilot's one stop shop approach being unaffordable for many owners of older and traditionally built homes; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ77641/26 | AINDRIAS MOYNIHAN

18. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the measures being taken to reduce energy costs for households across County Mayo and other rural counties; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78242/26 | KEIRA KEOGH

19. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he will outline the programme of investment that will be undertaken to upgrade the electricity network.

PQ77324/26 | BRENDAN SMITH

20. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if energy credits will be considered for the winter period.

PQ78247/26 | MARK WARD

21. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the steps being taken to tackle energy poverty in rural communities, particularly among older people and low-income households in County Mayo; and if he will make a full statement on the matter.

PQ78243/26 | KEIRA KEOGH

22. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he remains committed to the promised waiver for waste collection for households where a person has incontinence and therefore, bigger waste collection charges.

PQ76939/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

23. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment to provide an update on his Departments plans to accelerate offshore wind development to help meet our 2030 climate targets.

PQ77998/26 | COLM BURKE

24. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment for an update on the work of the National Energy Affordability Taskforce.

PQ77965/26 | WILLIE O'DEA

25. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment when he will finalise the review and approval for the sale and use of plug-in photovoltaic (PIPV) solar panels in Ireland.

PQ78132/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

26. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he will provide an update on the work of the Offshore Wind Delivery Taskforce; and whether targets are on course to being met on key actions for 2026.

PQ77999/26 | COLM BURKE

27. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment for an update on the Hydrogen Strategy.

PQ78020/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

28. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the progress made towards the State's 2030 biomethane targets; whether biomethane is expected to be prioritised for industrial or domestic heat; and the economic viability and route to market for biomethane.

PQ78014/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

29. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment for an update on guidelines for the development of battery energy storage facilities; and a timeframe for same.

PQ75622/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

30. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment to remove the condition to qualify for the solar PV and battery grants that homes must be built and occupied before 2025.

PQ77816/26 | SÉAMUS MCGRATH

31. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the measures he intends to take to ensure that households, farmers and small businesses investing in solar panels receive a fair and sustainable payment for electricity exported to the national grid.

PQ77685/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

32. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the actions that are being taken to increase the maximum level of renewable electricity that can be accommodated on the grid, given the high levels of dispatch down in 2026.

PQ78273/26 | RÉADA CRONIN

33. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment for an update on plans to increase indigenously produced biomethane.

PQ78017/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

34. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he shares concerns that the absence of a central EU mechanism for packaging producer responsibility compliance is creating significant red tape for Irish businesses trading across the single market; whether he has raised the issue with his European counterparts; and the actions he is taking to ensure that companies are not subject to multiple reporting systems and payment arrangements for the same packaging obligations across different Member States.

PQ66757/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

35. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the plans in place to provide and expedite offshore windfarms, off the coast of Ireland.

PQ77784/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

36. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment whether he has assessed the risk that payments to households for exporting surplus solar electricity will fall or cease in future; and what measures he proposes to protect households that invested on the expectation of export income, including support for battery storage to increase their use of the electricity they generate.

PQ66558/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

37. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment whether the additional funding provided in Budget 2027 for the SEAI warmer homes scheme will reduce waiting times for applicants, the current waiting time for homeowners in County Louth is approximately 15 months before being contacted for a home survey due to high demand; the further average waiting time between survey completion and commencement of works; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78121/26 | PAULA BUTTERLY

38. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment for an update on the Hydrogen Strategy.

PQ77398/26 | DARREN O'ROURKE

39. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the number of homes that have been retrofitted under the warmer homes scheme since 2022.

PQ77678/26 | SEÁN Ó FEARGHAÍL

40. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the timeline and the budget available for the SEAI free solar PV scheme for the medically vulnerable; when eligible customers will be contacted about the scheme; and the number of customers who have already availed of the scheme.

PQ78198/26 | RUAIRÍ Ó MURCHÚ

41. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the ways in which the Government's continued investment in renewable energy and grid infrastructure can be used to support regional economic development and attract new enterprise and employment to areas with significant renewable energy generation.

PQ66521/26 | TONY MCCORMACK

42. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment whether funding allocated by his Department to the SEAI in Budget 2027 will be sufficient to support new retrofit grants.

PQ78134/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

43. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment his views on whether sufficient steps have been taken to implement adaptation measures in Ireland to date.

PQ78105/26 | PA DALY

44. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the progress his Department is making in developing battery energy storage facilities to support the delivery of Ireland's clean energy objectives.

PQ78314/26 | PETER ROCHE

45. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the steps he is taking to ensure the promised waiver for waste collection for households, where a person has incontinence, and therefore bigger waste collection charges.

PQ76938/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

46. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment for an update on the technical process and timeline for the approval for sale and use of plug-in photovoltaic (PIPV) solar panels in Ireland.

PQ78133/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

47. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment for the introduction of a dedicated pathway of supports for households that fail to meet the eligibility criteria for works under the warmer homes scheme, free energy upgrades; the measures being taken to address the increasing number of homes excluded from the current scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ77639/26 | AINDRIAS MOYNIHAN

48. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the status of the Private Wires Bill 2025.

PQ77511/26 | JAMES GEOGHEGAN

49. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment following the submission of the ESB networks plug-in solar working group report to his Department on 1 October 2026, when the report and its recommendations will be published; the actions that are now required to permit the safe use of plug-in solar systems up to 800 watts; and whether he will provide a firm timeline for their introduction in Ireland.

PQ78305/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

50. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he will report on the recent EU Energy Council in Dublin on the 28 and 29 September 2026.

PQ65220/26 | JENNIFER WHITMORE

51. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the measures his Department is taking to improve energy affordability.

PQ75566/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

52. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the measures in place to ensure transparency regarding electricity costs for data centres in Ireland; whether the cost per unit of electricity paid by data centres is lower than that paid by domestic and commercial consumers; and the actions being taken to ensure that energy costs are allocated fairly across all electricity users.

PQ78046/26 | SEÁN KYNE

53. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment whether funding allocated by his Department to the SEAI in Budget 2027 will be sufficient to match the rate of inflation.

PQ78135/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

54. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment for an update on the work of the National Energy Affordability Taskforce.

PQ77966/26 | WILLIE O'DEA

55. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment whether his Department has assessed the extent to which the cost of remedial works, including electrical rewiring, upgrades to existing electrical systems and other preparatory works required before grant-aided energy efficiency upgrades can proceed, acts as a barrier to households seeking to avail of Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) grants; and if he is considering expanding grant supports to cover such remedial works.

PQ77672/26 | GRACE BOLAND

56. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment to respond to the 'extreme disappointment' expressed by the Climate Change Advisory Council that new partially fossil fuel powered data centres are to be permitted, that this 'threatens Ireland's decarbonisation and climate targets', and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78265/26 | PAUL MURPHY

57. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment his plans to assist families and individuals who are in arrears with their energy bills.

PQ78300/26 | CONOR D. MCGUINNESS

58. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the timeline to enact the Electricity (Supply) (Amendment) Bill 2025.

PQ76606/26 | BRENDAN SMITH

59. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment following the UK’s decision to permit plug-in solar panels, whether he will introduce a safe, simplified route for households in Ireland to use plug-in solar systems and compatible batteries; and when he expects to publish the necessary technical standards and registration rules.

PQ66559/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

60. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment in view of the serious funding crisis facing the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the risk to completion of its Seventh Assessment Report, whether Ireland will make an immediate additional financial contribution to the IPCC Trust Fund; the amount and date of any contribution planned for 2026; and the steps he is taking at EU and international level to secure sustainable, multi-year funding for the IPCC.

PQ78296/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

61. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if recipients of the SEAI medically vulnerable solar PV scheme are eligible to have their existing systems upgraded with the enhanced scheme announced under Budget 2027.

PQ77632/26 | JOE COONEY

62. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment his plans to lower climbing energy bills.

PQ78303/26 | CONOR D. MCGUINNESS

63. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the input his Department has had into the development of solar energy development guidelines as initiated by the Department for Housing; Local Government and Heritage.

PQ75565/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

64. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the steps his Department is taking, as part of national energy policy and the delivery of Ireland's renewable energy targets, to ensure that the cumulative impact of multiple renewable energy developments in east Galway is appropriately considered.

PQ78312/26 | PETER ROCHE

65. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he will make grants available to persons who can avail of plug-in solar panels, as they currently do not qualify.

PQ76711/26 | BRIAN STANLEY

66. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the number of offshore wind projects which are currently in the planning stage within the State and where they will be located.

PQ78252/26 | JOE NEVILLE

67. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment to outline the support for retrofitting measures under Budget 2027.

PQ77677/26 | SEÁN Ó FEARGHAÍL

68. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the assessment that has been made of Ireland’s capacity to produce HVO from indigenous feedstocks, including the need for imports and their carbon and sustainability implications; and if any studies have been undertaken in this regard.

PQ78005/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

69. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he is aware of the recently published report from the SEAI; to report on the likelihood of reaching 2030 targets based on this data; the measures he is taking to address this; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78107/26 | PA DALY

70. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the measures that are being taken to reduce delays in securing electricity grid connections for new businesses, housing developments, and renewable energy projects.

PQ66522/26 | TONY MCCORMACK

71. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the rate of national home retrofitting to date in 2026 compared to 2025; and if the new home energy upgrade grants announced in October, available through the Sustainable Energy Authority Of Ireland, are expected to have an impact on the overall rate of retrofitting going forward.

PQ78140/26 | PAUL MCAULIFFE

72. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the steps his Department has taken to fast-track the development of offshore wind power.

PQ78250/26 | JOE NEVILLE

73. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the steps being taken to ensure data centres reduce energy and water consumption.

PQ78199/26 | RUAIRÍ Ó MURCHÚ

74. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment regarding the new solar PV and battery grants available through the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland as announced in October 2026, if he is aware of an issue whereby recipients of social welfare payments are in effect required to pay for works in advance; and if he has considered options to enable this cohort of people to avail of the works without the need to have large upfront costs.

PQ78162/26 | PAUL MCAULIFFE

75. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if his Department is tracking or monitoring the projected fines or financial penalties Ireland could face if we fail to meet our emissions targets; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ77500/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH TOSAÍOCHT DÓIBH
QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

Chun an Leanaí, Míchumais agus Comhionannais: To the Children, Disability and Equality

76. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to clarify the reasons for the Budget announcement to reduce childcare costs to €550 per month

PQ78519/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

77. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of early learning and childcare providers that will be expected to lower their fees due to the change in maximum fee bands as part of Budget 2027.

PQ77875/26 | DANIEL ENNIS

78. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to provide an update on the review in relation to the mother and baby institutions payment scheme.

PQ78585/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

79. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to provide an update on the development of a public childcare pilot site for Newbridge and Kilcullen.

PQ78112/26 | MARK WALL

80. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality for an update on her work on the Early Learning and Childcare Planning Matters Working Group regarding a review of the 2001 planning guidelines for local authorities on early learning and childcare settings.

PQ78614/26 | AISLING DEMPSEY

CEISTEANNA EILE
OTHER QUESTIONS

Chun an Leanaí, Míchumais agus Comhionannais: To the Children, Disability and Equality

81. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the measures she is overseeing to ensure the recruitment of therapists for children with a disability who require an assessment or have an identified need but cannot access a service due to staffing issues.

PQ77997/26 | BRIAN BRENNAN

82. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to consider upgrading the Carrigaline family support centre to a family resource centre.

PQ77818/26 | SÉAMUS MCGRATH

83. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the actions her Department is taking to strengthen the rights of non-binary people; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78278/26 | PAUL MURPHY

84. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the oversight mechanisms that exist to ensure Individual family support plans developed by Children's Disability Network Teams contain agreed goals, identified interventions, assigned responsibilities, review dates and implementation timeframes in accordance with national policy; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78122/26 | PAULA BUTTERLY

85. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if there will be a further roll-out of early learning and childcare facilities; and if she will ensure that a facility is located in County Laois, due to the rapid expansion of the population in the county.

PQ76713/26 | BRIAN STANLEY

86. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the progress to date in providing childcare places under the building blocks scheme.

PQ78240/26 | BRENDAN SMITH

87. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality for an update on the review of the 2001 planning guidelines for local authorities on early learning and childcare settings.

PQ78254/26 | EMER CURRIE

88. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to outline when the next round of State led childcare project towns will be announced.

PQ78256/26 | JOE NEVILLE

89. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she is satisfied with the robustness, consistency and appropriateness of the assessment processes used currently and historically in diagnosing disabilities and developmental conditions in children; and whether these processes have been reviewed to ensure that diagnoses are based solely on appropriate clinical criteria and the individual needs of the child.

PQ66524/26 | TONY MCCORMACK

90. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to provide an update on the childcare providers who have received proposed commercial rates valuations that threaten the viability of their services.

PQ78293/26 | CONOR D. MCGUINNESS

91. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to provide a centre of excellence on a school campus (details supplied) for children and adults with profound disabilities.

PQ77309/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

92. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she is concerned at the impact on children's rights of the use of a private company for supervised access resulting from court cases which has previously been barred from being used by Tusla due to concerns over its practices; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78284/26 | PAUL MURPHY

93. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the waiting times for CDNT services in Dublin Mid-West; and the targeted measures that are being used to clear these lists.

PQ78251/26 | MARK WARD

94. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality for an update on residential disability services in Galway; the steps being taken to increase residential capacity; and the details of additional residential places provided to date and those planned for Galway city and county in the future.

PQ78042/26 | SEÁN KYNE

95. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality her plans to increase the numbers of frontline staff in disability services in County Louth.

PQ78022/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

96. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the way in which she and her Department are engaging in the cross-government network for the child poverty and well-being programme.

PQ77891/26 | DANIEL ENNIS

97. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she will support extending paid paternity leave; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78309/26 | PAUL MURPHY

98. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality for an update on the ten new family resource centres announced in Budget 2027; the current status of the process to establish these centres under consideration for allocation; and when their locations will be determined.

PQ77335/26 | SEÁN KYNE

99. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether, building on the childcare fee reductions announced in Budget 2027, consideration will be given to further supports for families on 50-hour contracts, particularly where providers do not offer shorter options.

PQ78276/26 | SHANE MOYNIHAN

100. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the additional investment and capacity expansion is planned for adult disability day services and residential care; and the measures being taken to ensure that young adults leaving school can access appropriate services in their own communities.

PQ77682/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

101. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the measures being taken to increase the availability of affordable childcare places, particularly in areas experiencing significant population growth and shortages of childcare facilities; and if additional funding and supports will be provided to childcare providers to increase capacity.

PQ78315/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

102. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the specific measures being taken to reduce waiting times for assessment and therapeutic interventions through children's disability network teams serving Roscommon and East Galway; whether additional clinical staff will be allocated to these services; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78351/26 | MARTIN DALY

103. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the measures she will take to end the waiting lists for CDNT services in the Dublin 15 area.

PQ72711/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

104. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the way in which measures under Budget 2027 will reduce childcare costs for families.

PQ77963/26 | WILLIE O'DEA

105. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality for an update on her work on the Early Learning and Childcare Planning Matters Working Group regarding a review of the 2001 planning guidelines for local authorities on early learning and childcare settings.

PQ78307/26 | AISLING DEMPSEY

106. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to clarify whether an assessment officer has been recruited for the Kildare HSE area.

PQ78115/26 | MARK WALL

107. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to detail the aggregate total number of vacant positions currently in CDNTs across the State; and the plans to address the way in which these vacancies will be filled.

PQ78200/26 | RUAIRÍ Ó MURCHÚ

108. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she will consider providing a capital funding mechanism for community associations seeking to construct new childcare facilities where the association would own the facility but lease its operation to a registered childcare provider.

PQ78023/26 | COLM BURKE

109. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality her assessment of childcare capacity across the mid Cork region, including rapidly growing towns and rural communities; the steps being taken to ensure sufficient childcare places are available to meet current and future demand; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78261/26 | AINDRIAS MOYNIHAN

110. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the level of funding that is available under AIM for children under three; and the number of hours per day this funding covers.

PQ78114/26 | MARK WALL

111. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the measures her Department is taking to ensure that sufficient childcare places are available for families in north Dublin, and to support the financial viability and sustainability of childcare providers in the area.

PQ78235/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

112. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the actions she is taking to address the fact that the Dún Laoghaire Rathdown area has the lowest participation rate in the core funding scheme in the country at 78%; and if this is under review within her Department.

PQ76661/26 | BARRY WARD

113. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to outline her Department's position on non-binary gender recognition; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78291/26 | PAUL MURPHY

114. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to provide an update on the development of Shaping the Future Phase 2; and when it will be published in 2026.

PQ78234/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

115. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the steps she is taking to ensure adequate childcare provision in Waterford.

PQ78294/26 | CONOR D. MCGUINNESS

116. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the way she or her Department intend to spend or allocate funds to disability services in respect of the increased budget in 2026.

PQ78147/26 | PAUL MCAULIFFE

117. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she will commit to examine the reason a special care unit for vulnerable children and teens (details supplied), that had consistently received excellent HIQA reports over a number of years has been thrown in to chaos as a result of the mishandling of a recruitment and retention strategy by TUSLA senior management, which has led to an increase in resignations, an increase in sick leave, and a reduction of beds available to the High Court for children at serious risk.

PQ77881/26 | ROBERT O'DONOGHUE

118. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the measures she is taking to prevent adults with acquired brain injuries from being placed in nursing homes because appropriate community disability supports are unavailable; and the additional supported living capacity will be developed in 2027.

PQ78233/26 | LIAM QUAIDE

119. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to provide an update on the seven new centres for early learning and childcare facilities; the current stages of each; and the expected completion date of all seven facilities.

PQ76712/26 | BRIAN STANLEY

120. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to provide an update on measures being taken to simplify administrative and regulatory requirements for early learning and childcare providers while maintaining appropriate standards of care.

PQ66523/26 | TONY MCCORMACK

121. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if a detailed assessment has been undertaken of the current and future housing and residential accommodation needs of adults with intellectual disabilities in West Wicklow; the number of adults awaiting suitable adult residential placements or supported independent living arrangements in the region; the plans that are in place, in conjunction with the HSE, Wicklow County Council and relevant disability service providers to meet the need; and if funding has been allocated to address these needs.

PQ78306/26 | EDWARD TIMMINS

122. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality her plans to extend paid paternity leave to eight weeks.

PQ66890/26 | SHÓNAGH NÍ RAGHALLAIGH

123. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the measures being taken to address staffing shortages and waiting lists across children's disability network teams; and the specific targets that have been established to ensure children receive timely access to assessment and therapeutic interventions.

PQ77681/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

124. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to provide an update on the proposed equine therapy centre at Toghermore, County Galway; the reasons for delays in progressing the project; the steps being taken to advance the development; and the expected timeframe for delivery of the feasibility study.

PQ78311/26 | PETER ROCHE

125. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the steps being taken to improve the coordination of transition between children's disability services and adult services.

PQ78310/26 | PETER ROCHE

126. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the additional supports she can provide to an organisation (details supplied) in view of the important advocacy and work they do.

PQ78295/26 | AISLING DEMPSEY

127. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the procedures in place to ensure Children's Disability Network Teams prepare Individual family support plans within the timelines set out in the HSE Progressing Disability Services framework; the percentage of children currently engaged with CDNTs who have an agreed IFSP in place; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78123/26 | PAULA BUTTERLY

128. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to confirm the changes that were made to childcare in Budget 2027; and the way in which these changes will help to reduce childcare costs for parents.

PQ78012/26 | COLM BURKE

129. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the proposals, if any, there are to provide additional resources for areas such as Cavan Monaghan to improve therapy services for children with additional needs.

PQ76607/26 | BRENDAN SMITH

130. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality her plans to improve access to respite for children and adults with disabilities in County Galway.

PQ75564/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

131. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality for an update on the Equality (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2025, now that it has been given priority drafting on the Autumn legislative agenda.

PQ77905/26 | DANIEL ENNIS

132. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the steps her Department is taking to honour the Programme for Government commitments to enhance outcomes for kinship carers.

PQ67509/26 | EOIN HAYES

133. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the way in which measures in Budget 2027 will support recruitment and retention of staff in the childcare sector.

PQ77654/26 | SEÁN Ó FEARGHAÍL

134. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if her Department could outline the benefits parents who are in childcare Band F will receive following on from this year's budget announcement.

PQ78253/26 | JOE NEVILLE

135. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality for an update on the actions being taken by her Department to support ECCE-only services that are receiving commercial rates bills.

PQ78257/26 | EMER CURRIE

136. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of vacant whole-time equivalent posts in children's disability network teams by discipline at the end of Q3 2026; the number of children waiting for a first CDNT appointment; and the recruitment targets for 2027.

PQ77837/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

137. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the measures she is considering to expand early learning and childcare capacity.

PQ77897/26 | DANIEL ENNIS

138. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to outline the progress being made on the proposed State-supported childcare facility in Boyle, County Roscommon; the anticipated timeline for its delivery; the further measures that are planned to address childcare shortages in rural communities across Roscommon and East Galway; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78352/26 | MARTIN DALY

139. 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.

PQ75563/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

140. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality whether consideration will be given to reviewing the 45-hour weekly subsidy limit under the national childcare scheme, particularly given many providers exclusively offer 50-hour contracts.

PQ78277/26 | SHANE MOYNIHAN

141. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality for an update on working conditions in Oberstown Children Detention Campus; and if capacity is being reviewed.

PQ78249/26 | MARK WARD

142. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she will include socio-economic disadvantage as a ground for discrimination in the Equality (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2024.

PQ78129/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

143. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to provide an update on the Programme for Government’s commitment to establish an annual Children’s Therapies Grant Fund, to provide evidence-based therapies.

PQ78138/26 | MARK WALL

144. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if the projected population growth in Blessington and West Wicklow has been considered and incorporated into planning for childcare, disability and family supports; and the engagement that has taken place with Wicklow County Council and the HSE.

PQ78304/26 | EDWARD TIMMINS

145. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality in view of the recent announcement to reduce childcare costs in Budget 2027, if she will outline the expected progression in order to achieve the Programme Government Commitment to reduce the cost of childcare to €200 per month, per child, through the national childcare scheme.

PQ78145/26 | PAUL MCAULIFFE

146. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of adults with a disability living with a main family carer aged over 70 years-of-age; the number of emergency residential placements made in 2025 and to date in 2026 due to a carer who has died or become ill; and whether a forward-planning process exists for these families.

PQ77835/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

147. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to report on the vacancies in the CDNT teams in Blanchardstown and Blakestown; and the steps being taken to fill the vacancies.

PQ72712/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

148. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality for clarity on the use of a vacant property on the grounds of Mallow General Hospital; and if this will be used for respite/residential services for people with disabilities.

PQ75620/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

149. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the efforts within her Department to increase the supply of childcare places in Clifden and in the general area of west Conamara, County Galway.

PQ75892/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

150. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the measures her Department is taking to support the establishment of new childcare facilities in areas of unmet demand across Mid Cork, particularly in rural communities and commuter towns; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78262/26 | AINDRIAS MOYNIHAN

151. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she has engaged with the Minister for Education and Youth to ask her to consider altering the guidance to primacy schools regarding making a room or rooms available to afterschool providers.

PQ78131/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

152. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the reasons for Tusla's inability to fulfil its statutory obligation in providing timely access to special care for some young people subject to a High Court order; and the plans to bring special care bed capacity back to 26.

PQ78201/26 | RUAIRÍ Ó MURCHÚ

153. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she will report on assessment of need waiting lists in County Louth.

PQ78021/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

154. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality her plans to expand specialist home and community-based rehabilitation services for people with acquired brain injuries; whether the HSE has assessed regional disparities in access to these supports; and the additional funding and service capacity will be provided in 2027 to ensure that people can receive ongoing rehabilitation in their own communities.

PQ78232/26 | LIAM QUAIDE

155. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the actions she is taking to reduce assessment of need waiting lists and children's disability network team waiting lists in north Fingal.

PQ77674/26 | GRACE BOLAND

156. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality when she expects to publish the long-term funding and sustainability model for community childcare services.

PQ77673/26 | GRACE BOLAND

157. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality what cross-departmental work is taking place with the Department of Health and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to address the urgent need for residential care and supported living options for adults with intellectual disabilities; and what steps are being taken to improve long-term planning for individuals and their families.

PQ66560/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH TOSAÍOCHT DÓIBH
QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

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

158. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he is concerned that some students are paying up to €16,000 per year for accommodation while the delivery of purpose-built student accommodation has fallen to a reported 20-year low, with only

657 beds delivered in 2025 and 419 expected in 2026; whether he has assessed the value-for-money implications of proposals announced as part of Budget 2027 whereby private developers will build student accommodation that is then leased back to third-level institutions; and the measures he will take to increase the supply of affordable student accommodation to reduce costs for students and families.

PQ71949/26 | FIONNTÁN Ó SÚILLEABHÁIN

159. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his plans to ensure institutions that advertise third level courses as teaching council recognised, are accurate.

PQ78402/26 | JEN CUMMINS

160. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide details of the student accommodation programme that his Department rolled out in 2024; the progress made; and the beds that have been delivered to date.

PQ72061/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

161. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science for a full update on the progress of the Wexford campus of the South East Technological University; the status of the master plan for the campus; if student accommodation will form a part of the proposal; when construction is likely to commence on this campus; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ72191/26 | EOGHAN KENNY

162. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science when student fees will be completely abolished (details supplied).

PQ72063/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

163. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide an update on the expression of interest process for the provision of purpose built student accommodation.

PQ72276/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

CEISTEANNA EILE
OTHER QUESTIONS

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

164. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the way in which Budget 2027 will support students with the costs of third level education.

PQ72044/26 | JAMES O'CONNOR

165. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the position regarding the growing concerns amongst third level students that they will be unable to afford to continue to go to college following the measures introduced in Budget 2027, including the considerable pressure that student fees are placing on them; the measures he is taking to address this; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ72049/26 | PA DALY

166. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide an update on the Student Accommodation Strategy

PQ71699/26 | MALCOLM BYRNE

167. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the progress that has been made in increasing Ireland’s participation rate in lifelong learning and upskilling; and the way in which Ireland currently compares with the best performing countries in the European Union.

PQ71536/26 | TONY MCCORMACK

168. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his views on the record attendance at WorldSkills Ireland 2026; what this indicates about growing interest among young people in apprenticeships, further education and skills-based careers; the steps he is taking to convert that interest into additional training opportunities; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ71718/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

169. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the steps that are being taken to ensure higher education institutions equip students with the skills required for the increasing adoption of AI and emerging technologies across sectors; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ77686/26 | AINDRIAS MOYNIHAN

170. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his Department will outline if there will be additional supports made available for parents with two or more children in college; and the supports that will be available.

PQ72043/26 | JOE NEVILLE

171. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science for an update on the expansion of the Tyndall National Institute and the Government’s investment in semiconductor research, artificial intelligence, high-performance computing and quantum technologies.

PQ71707/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

172. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the actions he intends to take in conjunction with further and higher education providers to address identified regional shortages in advanced digital skills such as artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, data and cloud technologies.

PQ71794/26 | JOHN CLENDENNEN

173. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the actions he is taking to ensure that there are adequate, accessible and free mental health supports in third level institutions; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ71448/26 | BARRY WARD

174. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the amount that parents and students are expected to pay in third level fees in each of the years 2024, 2025 and 2026; and the amount they will be expected to pay in 2027.

PQ71950/26 | CATHY BENNETT

175. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will consider the development of a national certified traineeship in boat-building skills, particularly in locations such as Kilrush, County Clare, where successful maritime traineeships are being delivered and significant expertise already exists.

PQ77760/26 | JOE COONEY

176. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he believes the measures included in Budget 2027 are sufficient to address the crisis in student accommodation across the country; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ72057/26 | PA DALY

177. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if any of the additional €30 million allocated to apprenticeships in the Budget will be used to fund additional cost of living supports for apprentices; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ71957/26 | PAUL MURPHY

178. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of apprentices currently awaiting access to an off-the-job training phase, by apprenticeship programme and Education and Training Board; the average waiting time for such training; the additional training capacity to be provided in 2027; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ72039/26 | PETER ROCHE

179. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the measures he is taking to reduce the cost of going to college/university.

PQ71269/26 | DARREN O'ROURKE

180. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science for a full update on plans to accelerate the provision of student accommodation, both on campus and off campus.

PQ78203/26 | SÉAMUS MCGRATH

181. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the measures he is taking to address the shortage and cost of student accommodation in Galway.

PQ67429/26 | PETER ROCHE

182. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to outline the measures that have taken effect in the 2026 academic year; and what new supports will be introduced to support students following budget 2027 to reduce the cost of further and higher education for students and families.

PQ71695/26 | WILLIE O'DEA

183. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the measures being taken to increase the number of apprenticeship places available nationally and in County Galway; whether new apprenticeship programmes are planned in areas experiencing skills shortages; and the steps being taken to encourage more employers, particularly SMEs, to take on apprentices.

PQ71701/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

184. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the way in which Ireland intends to position itself to benefit from the development of a more integrated European education and skills market.

PQ71793/26 | JOHN CLENDENNEN

185. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science whether his Department has assessed the impact of artificial intelligence on higher education provision, including the likely demand for new AI-related courses and skills; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78110/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

186. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the measures being taken by his Department, in conjunction with Dundalk Institute of Technology and its strategic partnership with Queen's University Belfast, to increase the supply of affordable student accommodation in County Louth; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ71665/26 | PAULA BUTTERLY

187. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the actions he is taking to address the lack of purpose-built student accommodation in Tralee, given that MTU Kerry students are reliant on privately owned accommodation and are facing excessive rents and additional charges; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ71764/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

188. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his Department has ever commissioned a study on the number of third level students who intend to emigrate when they graduate; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ77545/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

189. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the engagement he and his Department has had with the Department of Health and the HSE to align graduate numbers in both nursing and physiotherapy with workforce needs into the future.

PQ72054/26 | EDWARD TIMMINS

190. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the long-term plans for the campus of Carlow college; and if staff will be consulted as part of this process.

PQ72072/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

191. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his proposals to ensure adequate provision of accommodation for students.

PQ71951/26 | CATHY BENNETT

192. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide an update on the action being taken by his Department to provide additional supports to students at third level who have disabilities; and if additional funding for this has been provided in Budget 2027.

PQ71847/26 | RUAIRÍ Ó MURCHÚ

193. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his Department has sought or received reports or analysis regarding the number of international students attending high-demand courses in Irish universities; and the findings of such reports or analysis.

PQ71960/26 | MATT CARTHY

194. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide an overview of the consortia-led apprenticeship model, the 11 new programmes introduced this year across banking, healthcare, engineering, technology, construction and business, bringing the total number of active apprenticeships to 89.

PQ71721/26 | ERIN MCGREEHAN

195. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science for an update on the National Student Accommodation Strategy (NSAS) 2026–2035.

PQ78223/26 | JEN CUMMINS

196. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his views on the merits of creating a student finance model that would provide interest free loans to students that do not qualify for SUSI grants, to support the associated costs of attending third level education; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ71447/26 | BARRY WARD

197. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the assurances he can give to staff and students at a school (details supplied) that their employment or education will not be adversely affected by the plans to cease courses there in two years' time.

PQ72065/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

198. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the measures that have taken effect in the 2026 academic year, and the new supports in Budget 2027 to reduce the cost of further and higher education for students and families.

PQ71787/26 | MARTIN DALY

199. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his assessment of the reported funding shortfalls facing the University of Galway; and the impact these financial pressures may have on the university's operations, staffing levels, student services and performance.

PQ72032/26 | SEÁN KYNE

200. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide a detailed up-to-date report on the Pretty Polly site in Killarney which is earmarked for development as a training college for the hospitality industry; if this important project for Killarney and County Kerry will be expedited; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ71767/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

201. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science for an update on the INSPIRE Research Infrastructure Programme; the investment being made available to higher-education institutions; and how the programme will support Irish research, regional development and economic competitiveness.

PQ71713/26 | NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

202. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the measures being taken to ensure students with disabilities and additional needs can access appropriate supports when moving from second-level to further and higher education; and whether gaps in supports during this transition have been identified.

PQ72037/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

203. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of SUSI grant applications received from students resident in Cork city and county for the 2026-2027 academic year compared with 2025-2026, following the increase in the household income threshold to €120,000 announced in Budget 2026.

PQ71720/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

204. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide an update on student accommodation in Galway.

PQ71354/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

205. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to provide an update on college fees.

PQ71355/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

206. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science for an update on the new building for a school (details supplied)

PQ71266/26 | DARREN O'ROURKE

207. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the amount allocated to Munster Technological University under the €65.8 million Targeted Enhancement Fund running from January 2026 to December 2028; and the projects at its Cork campuses supported by that allocation.

PQ71717/26 | PÁDRAIG O'SULLIVAN

208. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will phase out the student contribution charge over the lifetime of this Government.

PQ72050/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

209. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science whether all universities providing courses for students with intellectual disabilities and autism have access to job coaching services aimed at improving employment outcomes; if gaps exist, whether measures are being considered to appoint dedicated job coaches; when any such initiatives are expected to be implemented; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ71862/26 | MICHEÁL CARRIGY

210. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the highest income threshold for the SUSI grant following on from Budget 2027.

PQ72041/26 | JOE NEVILLE

211. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the cost of the student contribution charge for third level education in 2024, 2025, 2026 and 2027.

PQ71962/26 | MATT CARTHY

212. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the way in which Budget 2027 will deliver for Ireland's skills, especially those needed for the digital and green transitions.

PQ72022/26 | JAMES O'CONNOR

213. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science for a full update on the plans for the Wexford Campus of the South East Technological University.

PQ69743/26 | GEORGE LAWLOR

214. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the measures being considered to make it easier for small businesses to employ and train apprentices; and if additional supports for SMEs participating in the apprenticeship system are being examined.

PQ71533/26 | TONY MCCORMACK

215. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science whether any targeted measures are planned to support the development of the specialist technical skills required for offshore wind deployment; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78109/26 | NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

216. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he will provide an update on the rollout of Government funding and investment measures for universities (details supplied); whether he is satisfied that current funding levels are sufficient to support the delivery of teaching, research and student services.

PQ72040/26 | SEÁN KYNE

217. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he considered doubling the reduction in the student contribution fee instead of spending €50 million on AI skills; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ71959/26 | PAUL MURPHY

218. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the engagement he and his Department has had with the Department of Health and the HSE regarding employment opportunities for nursing and physiotherapy graduates.

PQ72053/26 | EDWARD TIMMINS

219. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to outline the importance of Ireland’s first Tertiary Education Strategy, which he recently launched; and the way in which it will create better pathways for learners while meeting Ireland’s future skills needs.

PQ71738/26 | CORMAC DEVLIN

220. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of nurses and midwives who have graduated in Ireland in each of the past five years, broken down by university.

PQ77544/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

221. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the status of the new Action Plan for Apprenticeship 2026-2030 following the public consultation process; when the plan will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ71666/26 | PAULA BUTTERLY

222. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his plans for further decreases to the student contribution charge.

PQ72051/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

223. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science for an update on the planned new funding model for students of graduate entry medicine.

PQ71698/26 | MALCOLM BYRNE

224. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the steps being taken to ensure apprenticeship, further education and skills programmes are responding to the impact of AI and automation on the labour market; and whether new or expanded training programmes are planned for sectors facing significant skills shortages.

PQ72038/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

225. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science for guidance to higher education institutions to stop the number of universities paying for invasive animal experiments abroad.

PQ78224/26 | JEN CUMMINS

226. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the work being undertaken by his Department to encourage more students from the North to attend HEIs in the South as part of cross-border student mobility; whether work is being carried out to examine the effect of the technical misalignment of A-Levels and the Leaving Certificate which means Northern students have to sit four A-Levels in order to achieve maximum CAO points.

PQ71849/26 | RUAIRÍ Ó MURCHÚ

227. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his views on the significance of UCD entering the world's top 100 universities.

PQ71737/26 | CORMAC DEVLIN

228. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of additional student accommodation bed spaces planned for Galway under the National Student Accommodation Strategy 2026–2035; the proposals currently being considered in respect of University of Galway and Atlantic Technological University; the anticipated delivery timelines; and the measures being taken to ensure that new accommodation is affordable for students.

PQ71700/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

229. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science for an update on the expansion of third-level places in medicine, nursing, therapies, pharmacy, dentistry and social care; the number of additional places being delivered; and the contribution this will make to addressing health and disability workforce shortages.

PQ71789/26 | MARTIN DALY

230. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the mechanisms in place through QQI and the national quality assurance framework to ensure that programme curricula remain responsive to technological developments, enterprise opportunities and evolving consumer trends; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78269/26 | AINDRIAS MOYNIHAN

CEISTEANNA LE HAGHAIDH FREADRAI SCRÍOFA
QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

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

231. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade when the next evacuation from Gaza to Ireland is; and if her Department has made representations for seats on the bus for said evacuation.

PQ78344/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

232. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade if her Department made representations to the Israeli authorities, including Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories for additional individuals to be evacuated to Ireland on the evacuation from Gaza scheduled on 26 October 2026.

PQ78342/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

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

233. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the assessment that has been carried out regarding the impact of increasing data centre electricity demand on available grid capacity for housing and public services.

PQ78268/26 | RÉADA CRONIN

234. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment to allow for the warmer home scheme for Carers who provide full time care but do not reside with the care recipient, but where the costs of washing, drying and cooking are in the carers own home and incur substantial costs associated with same (details supplied).

PQ78343/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

235. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment the reason an application for a club (details supplied) under the Community Climate Action Programme 2025 was refused.

PQ78577/26 | CLAIRE KERRANE

236. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment whether Ireland has designated renewables acceleration areas in accordance with Article 15c of Directive (EU) 2023/2413; whether the plans and strategic environmental assessment required by that Article have been adopted; and the date on which the coordinated mapping required by Article 15b was completed.

PQ78636/26 | MAIRÉAD FARRELL

237. To ask the Minister for Climate, Energy and the Environment if he will work with the DSO and TSO to accelerate the timeline for implementation of hybrid grid connections for battery, wind and solar projects.

PQ78607/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

Chun an Cosanta: To the Defence

238. To ask the Minister for Defence if she has spoken formally with the UK Secretary of Defence in the past three months.

PQ78443/26 | SORCA CLARKE

239. To ask the Minister for Defence is there any law in place regarding the sustainability of sheep grazing on the Curragh.

PQ78425/26 | MARK WALL

240. To ask the Minister for Defence to outline the way in which the Government supports the Curragh Rangers in carrying out their duties; their written instructions; and contact details.

PQ78424/26 | MARK WALL

241. To ask the Minister for Defence the distance sheep are allowed to stray from the Curragh; and can sheep be directed by sheep owners through residential areas to reach the Curragh, regardless of the impact on the local area.

PQ78422/26 | MARK WALL

242. To ask the Minister for Defence to outline the persons that have the right to apply for sheep claims on the Curragh; the charge for such claims; when the claims are paid for; and the use of the funds.

PQ78421/26 | MARK WALL

243. To ask the Minister for Defence whether her Department has a role in the maintenance of the Curragh; and if so, if she will outline these responsibilities.

PQ78429/26 | MARK WALL

Chun an Iompair: To the Transport

244. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will review matters raised in correspondence (details supplied); if he will address the concerns raised regarding delays in obtaining a CPC practical test; and if he will provide an update on the matter

PQ78406/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

245. To ask the Minister for Transport to provide an update on the potential return of the Greystones/Bray coach to Dublin Airport; if options have been explored to add stops in these places to existing routes from places such as Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78420/26 | JOHN BRADY

246. To ask the Minister for Transport if a school (details supplied) in County Kildare is eligible for the Safe Routes to School programme; and if he will outline the way in which a school applies for the programme.

PQ78431/26 | MARK WALL

247. To ask the Minister for Transport the current number of car parking spaces available at both Longford and Westmeath train stations; and the average occupancy levels recorded over weekday mornings over the past 18-months.

PQ78436/26 | SORCA CLARKE

248. To ask the Minister for Transport further to Parliamentary Question No. 64003/26, to provide a copy of the EY review that was meant to be completed by September 2026 in relation to the NTCC.

PQ78377/26 | EOGHAN KENNY

249. To ask the Minister for Transport the current number of car parking spaces available at both Longford and Westmeath train stations; and the average occupancy levels recorded over weekday mornings over the past 18 months.

PQ78458/26 | SORCA CLARKE

250. To ask the Minister for Transport to list the projects that were funded under Public Transport Accessibility Retrofit Programme in 2025 and to date in 2026, in tabular form.

PQ78456/26 | SORCA CLARKE

251. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason trees and shrubbery are currently being cleared from a location (details supplied).

PQ78350/26 | SORCA CLARKE

252. To ask the Minister for Transport whether he is aware of the condition of the tricolour at Parnell Place Bus Station; when this was last replaced; and when it will be replaced.

PQ78370/26 | THOMAS GOULD

253. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide an update on the status of the Dublin Port 3FM infrastructure project.

PQ78492/26 | EOIN HAYES

254. To ask the Minister for Transport the number of rest stops on the motorway network that are closed.

PQ78595/26 | MICHAEL HEALY-RAE

255. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will stop the planned increase in the price of tolls from January 2027.

PQ78592/26 | MICHAEL HEALY-RAE

256. To ask the Minister for Transport when services under BusConnects in Clogheen Kerry Pike, Cork city will commence; if the new proposed stops have been identified; if so, the location of each; when they are likely to become operational; and the routes these new stops will cover.

PQ78604/26 | COLM BURKE

257. To ask the Minister for Transport the measures being taken by the Road Safety Authority to increase testing capacity and reduce waiting times in view of the new learner permit regulations effective from 1 November 2026.

PQ78546/26 | WILLIAM AIRD

258. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will indicate to the NTA that the Government is committed to providing the necessary support for the extension of public transport to new developments designed and proposed in line with Government policy to require public transport oriented development; and whether he will indicate to them that on that basis they should commit to extending bus routes in instances such as the large scale residential development proposed for Belcamp (LRD0068/S3E), in order that residents will have an adequate bus service from the time of occupation of their houses/apartments

PQ78538/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

259. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will consider reducing the minimum age requirement for Category D and DE bus and coach driving licences from 21 to 18 in specified circumstances (details supplied); and if he will further consider the extension of the applicable provisions for Category D1 and D1E minibus licences.

PQ78503/26 | RYAN O'MEARA

260. To ask the Minister for Transport if consideration will be given to extending the Local Link to Folkstown in Balbriggan given that it is a growing residential community; and if consideration will be given to the importance of linking up local link with local train times.

PQ78610/26 | LOUISE O'REILLY

261. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will give greater recognition to the N70 Ring of Kerry (details supplied).

PQ78527/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

262. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will expedite a major traffic management scheme for Glenbeigh village, County Kerry including resurfacing of main road, new footpaths, public lighting, pedestrian crossings, signs and signage; and take into consideration the importance of these works with the significant increase in footfall with the opening of the South Kerry Greenway .

PQ78526/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

263. To ask the Minister for Transport to give a detailed progress report on agreements reached, accommodation works carried out and payments made to date to landowners adjacent to the South Kerry Greenway; if he will ensure that all outstanding agreements are reached and finalised as soon as possible; if he will introduce a sustainability payment similar to the new Code of Practice 1 payment for all landowners adjacent to the South Kerry Greenway; and if he will ensure that this tourism project is completed at the earliest possible date.

PQ78529/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

264. To ask the Minister for Transport to expedite works on the South Kerry Greenway; and to provide a detailed progress report on this tourism project for the county, including commencement and completion dates for the remaining sections.

PQ78556/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

265. To ask the Minister for Transport if he intends to reintroduce the ICE2EV scrappage scheme given the success of the recent pilot scheme and broader Government commitments to reduce carbon emissions by 50% by 2030.

PQ78634/26 | DUNCAN SMITH

Chun an Airgeadais: To the Finance

266. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance whether the Future Ireland Fund is intended to contribute towards the cost of public service occupational pensions, including pensions arising from service in local authorities.

PQ78398/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

267. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the number of people who were affected by the high income earner restriction in each of the past three years for which data is available.

PQ78468/26 | AIDAN FARRELLY

268. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance to provide an estimate of the additional revenue that could be raised through each 1% increase in the 30 per cent effective rate of income tax that must be paid by individuals subject to the high income earner restriction.

PQ78486/26 | AIDAN FARRELLY

269. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if he will provide the names of production firms, names of films who have claimed corporation tax credits between €5 million and €10 million for the first three quarters of 2026, in tabular form; his views concerning the importance of Section 481 to the Irish movie industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78580/26 | AIDAN FARRELLY

270. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if he will provide the names of production firms, names of films who have claimed corporation tax credits between €30 million and €10 million for the first three quarters of 2026, in tabular form; his views concerning the importance of Section 481 to the Irish movie industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78579/26 | AIDAN FARRELLY

271. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance if he has conducted an analysis in respect of the Section 481 film credit, to include productions with a spend up to €125 million, is having an impact on the amount of corporation claimed under the scheme.

PQ78578/26 | AIDAN FARRELLY

272. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the amount that has been paid by the Revenue Commissioners for the first three quarters of 2026 in corporation tax credits under Section 481 film tax credit to fil, TV companies and visual media production companies.

PQ78576/26 | AIDAN FARRELLY

273. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance the amount that Revenue has spent on public information campaigns from 2020 to date in 2026 broken down by year; and the amount of that expenditure that was spent on social media advertising, in tabular form.

PQ78623/26 | SINÉAD GIBNEY

274. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance whether the Revenue Commissioners are taking any action or otherwise addressing the prevalence of incorrect and outdated public information being promoted by AI overviews and attributed to the Revenue Commissioners.

PQ78628/26 | SINÉAD GIBNEY

275. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance whether the Revenue Commissioners have ongoing initiatives to combat online disinformation related to their remit for disseminating public information; and if so, the expenditure associated with any such initiative.

PQ78641/26 | SINÉAD GIBNEY

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

276. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if he will designate the TEN-T Priority Improvement Project Donegal as a critical infrastructure project, as requested by Donegal County Council.

PQ78407/26 | PÁDRAIG MAC LOCHLAINN

277. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation whether his Department has received any proposal or engaged with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage since 1 January 2022 regarding the transfer of local authority pension liabilities to the Exchequer or Exchequer funding of local authority pension costs; and the status of any such engagement.

PQ78397/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

278. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the total pension contributions remitted by local authorities in respect of members of the single public service pension scheme in each year since 2013, in tabular form; the status and expected publication date of the actuarial review of public service occupational pension liabilities as at 31 December 2024; and whether that review will set out the accrued liability attributable to local authorities.

PQ78396/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

279. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if the records and statistics of formal complaints which departments are required to keep under paragraph 56 of Dignity at Work, Circular 12/2026, or under the previous 2015 policy, are collected centrally; the total number of formal complaints of bullying, harassment and sexual harassment recorded across the civil service in each of the years 2021 to 2025 and to date in 2026; the number of those in which the person complained of was not a civil servant; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78542/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

280. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation if Dignity at Work, Circular 12/2026, which took effect on 31 March 2026, applies where the person complained of by a civil servant is a minister or minister of State rather than a civil servant; if not, the procedure that applies to such complaints; whether the question of complaints against office holders was considered during the development of the circular; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78541/26 | KEN O'FLYNN

281. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation the steps that the OPW have taken to implement the specific recommendations within the Garda Training Review Group that relate to them.

PQ78619/26 | MARIE SHERLOCK

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

282. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment the details of the planned January 2027 increase in Minimum Annual Remuneration thresholds for healthcare assistants, home carers and care workers employed under general employment permits; the precise revised salary thresholds that will apply; and when these figures will be formally confirmed and communicated to employers.

PQ78496/26 | CATHAL CROWE

283. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment the measures being taken to protect Irish songwriters, composers and performers from the unauthorised use of their copyrighted works in the training of artificial intelligence systems; whether he supports requirements for transparency, consent, licensing and fair remuneration where copyrighted music is used for AI training purposes.

PQ78512/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

284. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment for an update on work permit query (details supplied).

PQ78505/26 | DANNY HEALY-RAE

285. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment whether the Government remains on track to fully transpose the EU Platform Work Directive by the deadline of 2 December 2026; whether the Directive will be transposed through primary or secondary legislation, or a combination of both; whether the Government intends to introduce any additional requirements that go beyond those set out in the Directive; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78537/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

286. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment the way in which the Government intends to interpret and apply the definition of a digital labour platform under Directive (EU) 2024/2831; whether the definition adopted in Irish legislation will align directly with that set out in Article 2 of the Directive; whether the Government intends to broaden the scope of this definition as part of the transposition process; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78536/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

287. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment whether he will consider deferring the planned January 2027 increase in minimum annual remuneration thresholds for healthcare assistants, home carers and care workers until a full assessment of the financial implications for independent nursing homes has been completed and meaningful engagement with the sector has taken place; and whether he has engaged with the Minister for Health and the National Treatment Purchase Fund to ensure that any additional statutory employment costs arising from these changes are appropriately reflected in Fair Deal funding agreements for 2027.

PQ78502/26 | CATHAL CROWE

288. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment whether his Department has undertaken, or intends to undertake, an assessment of the financial impact of the planned January 2027 increase in minimum annual remuneration thresholds on independent nursing home operators, particularly those participating in the nursing home support scheme (fair deal); and whether his Department has engaged with an organisation (details supplied) and representatives of the independent nursing home sector regarding the additional employment costs arising from these changes.

PQ78501/26 | CATHAL CROWE

289. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment to reconsider the support offered by him via Enterprise Ireland to Irish companies facing serious allegations of workplace abuse in data centre construction sites the firms operate in Europe (details supplied).

PQ78613/26 | EOIN Ó BROIN

290. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment his views on allegations of electrocutions, ‘mental terror’ and withheld wages among the exploited workers building Europe’s data centres including several Irish firms (details supplied).

PQ78612/26 | EOIN Ó BROIN

291. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment the amount that the CCPC spent on public information campaigns from 2020 to date in 2026, broken down by year; and the amount of that expenditure was spent on social media advertising, in tabular form.

PQ78626/26 | SINÉAD GIBNEY

292. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment the amount that the Health and Safety Authority spent on public information campaigns from 2020 to date in 2026, broken down by year; and the amount of that expenditure that was spent on social media advertising, in tabular form.

PQ78625/26 | SINÉAD GIBNEY

293. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment whether the Health and Safety Authority is taking any action or otherwise addressing the prevalence of incorrect and outdated public information being promoted by AI overviews and attributed to the Authority.

PQ78631/26 | SINÉAD GIBNEY

294. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment to detail the financial backing, advisory services, and trade mission support that his Department or agencies under his aegis such as Enterprise Ireland have offered to Irish construction and engineering firms secure overseas data centre contracts.

PQ78621/26 | EOIN Ó BROIN

295. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment whether the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission is taking any action or otherwise addressing the prevalence of incorrect and outdated public information being promoted by AI overviews and attributed to the Commission.

PQ78629/26 | SINÉAD GIBNEY

296. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment whether the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission has ongoing initiatives to combat online disinformation related to their remit for disseminating public information; and if so, the expenditure associated with any such initiative.

PQ78640/26 | SINÉAD GIBNEY

297. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment whether the Health and Safety Authority has ongoing initiatives to combat online disinformation related to their remit for disseminating public information; and if so, the expenditure associated with any such initiative.

PQ78639/26 | SINÉAD GIBNEY

Chun an Oideachais agus Óige: To the Education and Youth

298. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to rectify the outstanding summer provision payment for a person (details supplied).

PQ78409/26 | EMER CURRIE

299. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she is aware that there is no Gaelcholáiste in Laois, Offaly or Westmeath; if her Department has assessed the demand for one in Offaly, given the number of pupils attending Gaelscoileanna in Birr and Tullamore; and the steps she will take to establish one.

PQ78336/26 | SORCA CLARKE

300. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth to investigate with urgency the claim for an unpaid increment for a person (details supplied); if this can be resolved with urgency and the back pay owed to this person be paid in full.

PQ78333/26 | DUNCAN SMITH

301. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she will provide an update on an application for assistive technology (details supplied).

PQ78419/26 | CATHAL CROWE

302. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if her Department will provide an update on an additional special class for a school (details supplied) in County Kildare.

PQ78430/26 | MARK WALL

303. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth whether the certificate of compliance on completion for the two special education classrooms at a school (details supplied) has been signed by both the builder and assigned certifier and registered with the relevant Building Control Authority; if not, to provide the anticipated completion date; and to confirm whether any outstanding certification could delay occupation of the accommodation beyond the end of November 2026.

PQ78427/26 | EMER CURRIE

304. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth for an update on the delivery of two special education classrooms at a school (details supplied); to confirm whether all necessary ancillary certifications, including fire safety, electrical and other relevant building services certifications have been completed and signed off; and to provide the status of each outstanding certification, in tabular form.

PQ78426/26 | EMER CURRIE

305. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of schools that have appealed their special and mainstream education provision in Cork for the current school year; the number of these that have been decided; and the number of posts this has resulted in.

PQ78369/26 | THOMAS GOULD

306. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of SNA posts unfilled in Cork currently.

PQ78368/26 | THOMAS GOULD

307. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of teaching posts unfilled in Cork currently.

PQ78367/26 | THOMAS GOULD

308. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the number of school days missed at primary and post-primary respectively in Cork in September 2026, September 2024 and September 2022.

PQ78366/26 | THOMAS GOULD

309. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the status and timeline of proposals to remove diagnostic and assessment of need reports as eligibility criteria for special classes and special schools; the alternative assessment framework and safeguards that will ensure appropriate placements for children with complex needs; the additional staffing, specialist supports and resources that will be provided to schools; and the consultation that has taken place with parents, teachers and disability organisations.

PQ78583/26 | MICHAEL MURPHY

310. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the measures being taken to expand access to Irish medium education outside the Gaeltacht; and if there are plans to establish additional Gaelscoileanna and Gaelcholáistí.

PQ78606/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

311. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth the reason for the delay in payment to a person (details supplied).

PQ78646/26 | MICHAEL HEALY-RAE

312. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if a school (details supplied) is in the ownership of her Department; if not, the occupation arrangements that have been made with the property owner; the life-time and the annual cost to the State of any occupation arrangement; which State Department is funding any arrangement made; and the entity to which such payments are made.

PQ78655/26 | MAIRÉAD FARRELL

313. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth whether her Department has received applications or requests from either of the two post-primary schools in Kanturk, County Cork, for the establishment of autism classes; the funding and administrative supports available to schools to facilitate such interim provision; and the definitive timeline for the delivery of appropriate post-primary autism class places in Kanturk.

PQ78654/26 | PAT BUCKLEY

314. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth whether her Department has received applications or requests from schools (details supplied) for the establishment of autism classes; the dates on which any such applications or requests were received; the current status of any associated capital or accommodation projects; the reasons for any delays in delivering these facilities; and if her Department has assessed the feasibility of using existing classrooms, temporary accommodation or modular facilities to establish post-primary autism classes by September 2027.

PQ78651/26 | PAT BUCKLEY

315. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she is aware that there is currently no post-primary autism class provision in Kanturk, County Cork, despite six pupils currently attending primary-level autism classes being due to transition to post-primary education in September 2027; the measures her Department and the National Council for Special Education intend to take to ensure that these six pupils are not left without appropriate post-primary placements; and whether officials from her Department's school accommodation and capital planning sections will engage directly with the Kanturk Autism Parents Collective.

PQ78657/26 | PAT BUCKLEY

316. To ask the Minister for Education and Youth if she is aware that there is currently no post-primary autism class provision in Kanturk, County Cork, despite six pupils currently attending primary-level autism classes being due to transition to post-primary education in September 2027; if her Department has engaged with the two post-primary schools in Kanturk regarding the establishment of autism classes; and if she can confirm the current status and expected delivery timelines for these classes; whether interim accommodation, including the adaptation of existing classrooms, has been considered to ensure appropriate provision is available.

PQ78656/26 | PAT BUCKLEY

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

317. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport the number of applicants offered a place under the basic income for artists scheme have accepted their offers and completed the required documentation.

PQ78417/26 | CATHY BENNETT

318. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport when unsuccessful applicants under the basic income for artists scheme will be notified of the outcome of their applications.

PQ78416/26 | CATHY BENNETT

319. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport when the remaining successful applicants under the basic income for artists scheme will be notified of the outcome of their applications.

PQ78415/26 | CATHY BENNETT

320. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport the total number of applicants under the basic income for artists scheme; the number of which were successful, by scheme iteration.

PQ78414/26 | CATHY BENNETT

321. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport for an update on the development of a new National Velodrome and Badminton Centre.

PQ78462/26 | SORCA CLARKE

322. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport whether unsuccessful applicants to the basic income for the arts scheme (BIA 2026-2029) are provided with detailed reasons for decisions on their applications; the assessment criteria used in determining whether an applicant demonstrated an active creative practice; the number of appeals received to date; the number upheld; and whether he will review the transparency of the assessment and appeals process in light of concerns raised by applicants.

PQ78349/26 | JOHN CONNOLLY

323. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport if self-taught artists will be considered for future rounds of the basic income for artists scheme.

PQ78484/26 | MALCOLM BYRNE

324. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport to confirm when decisions to award funding under the Golf Legacy Infrastructure Investment Programme will be announced; and whether a club (details supplied) will be strongly considered for funding.

PQ78472/26 | COLM BURKE

325. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport if an application for €66 million in Government grant aid funding has been received from an organisation (details supplied); and the status of the grant application.

PQ78569/26 | AIDAN FARRELLY

326. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport if he and his officials have engaged with representatives of an organisation (details supplied) in respect of their plans for a €250 million winter sports hub at Cherrywood in south Dublin.

PQ78568/26 | AIDAN FARRELLY

327. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport when all remaining successful applicants will be notified of status of their applications to participate on the basic income for artists scheme; the number of the first group notified who have accepted their offers; and when all unsuccessful applicants will be informed.

PQ78547/26 | ROSE CONWAY-WALSH

328. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport the actions his Department is taking to protect the rights of Irish musicians, songwriters and composers in the context of artificial intelligence technologies, particularly regarding the use of copyrighted music in AI training datasets without consent.

PQ78513/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

329. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport to confirm that a facility (details supplied) funded under the Large Scale Sporting Infrastructure Fund can now proceed to tender for construction; and, if not, to outline the reasons this is the case.

PQ78560/26 | MALCOLM BYRNE

330. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport given the decline in Irish nightclubs from 522 in 2000 to just 83 in 2025, the measures being taken to protect remaining dance venues; whether targeted supports will be introduced for venue operators, DJs, artists and independent promoters; and when outstanding Night-Time Economy Taskforce report actions will be implemented.

PQ78652/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

331. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport which Night-Time Economy Taskforce recommendations and Programme for Government commitments concerning nightclubs, dance venues and club culture remain outstanding; the action that has been taken to address concerns raised by an organisation (details supplied) regarding the slow pace of implementation; and whether a definitive timeline for delivering these commitments will be provided.

PQ78650/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

332. To ask the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport when all remaining applicants to the basic income for artists scheme will be notified of the outcome of their applications; and the number of applicants who have been offered and accepted places on the scheme to date.

PQ78649/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

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

333. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the statutory methodology that approved housing bodies (AHBs) must use when assessing variable income for cost rental applicants; if AHBs must average all payslips provided within the assessment period of three months; if periods of payroll processing lag (details supplied) should be legally recognised as periods of active employment and included in the averaging division.

PQ78400/26 | THOMAS GOULD

334. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether his Department fully funds the cost to local authorities of pay increases arising under national public service pay agreements, including the Public Service Agreement 2024–2026; the total cost of such increases to local authorities; the total funding provided by his Department towards them in each of the years 2021 to 2025 and for 2026, in tabular form; and the portion of the cost met from local authority own resources.

PQ78399/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

335. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the total Exchequer expenditure by his Department on homelessness services and emergency homeless accommodation in each of the years from 2016 to date including voted allocations for 2026 and 2027.

PQ78395/26 | EOIN Ó BROIN

336. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether his Department has engaged with the Department of Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation on the transfer of local authority pension liabilities to the Exchequer, or on a mechanism to fund local authority pension costs above a baseline amount; the dates and status of any such engagement; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78394/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

337. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether his Department has received any submission, business case or report from the County and City Management Association, the Local Government Management Agency or any local authority since 1 January 2022 concerning the funding of local authority pension and gratuity costs; the date of receipt of each; the response of his Department to each; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78393/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

338. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether his Department has received, commissioned or been made aware of any actuarial assessment of the liabilities of the local government superannuation scheme since 1 January 2022, including any assessment prepared by or on behalf of the local government sector; the date on which any such assessment was received; the estimated accrued liability and projected annual pension costs set out in it; and whether it will be published.

PQ78392/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

339. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether any Exchequer funding, recoupment or grant is provided to local authorities specifically towards the cost of pensions and gratuities under the local government superannuation scheme; and if so, the total amount provided in each of the years 2020 to 2025.

PQ78391/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

340. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether funding provided to local authorities in respect of national public service pay agreements includes the consequent increase in the cost of pensions in payment arising from pay parity; if not, whether his Department has estimated that cost to local authorities; and the estimated cost in each of the years 2021 to 2025.

PQ78390/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

341. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether his Department compiles the Summary of Central Management Charge (Appendix 1) of local authority adopted budgets, including the pension and lump sum overhead, on a national basis; and if so, the amount provided in each local authority's adopted budget under that heading for each of the years 2014 to 2026, in tabular form.

PQ78389/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

342. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the expenditure on pensions and gratuities, and the superannuation contributions received, as reported in the annual financial statements of each local authority for each of the years 2014 to 2025, by local authority, in tabular form.

PQ78388/26 | ALBERT DOLAN

343. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide an update on the progress that has been made in the Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO) Areas for Action in Tuam, County Galway.

PQ78455/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

344. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will report on the way in which the projected national shortfall of 500 long-term supported homeless beds will impact Clare County Council; the number of long-term supported accommodation beds currently available within the Clare local authority area; and the estimated deficit in Clare for the coming winter.

PQ78345/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

345. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he has examined the impact of residential tenancy legislation on private property owners who provided accommodation to Ukrainian refugees under temporary humanitarian arrangements; whether concerns have been raised regarding the effect of tenancy timelines on such arrangements, and if he will consider introducing specific provisions or exemptions to provide certainty for landlords while ensuring appropriate protections remain in place for affected tenants.

PQ78566/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

346. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is aware that elderly people living alone in a circumstance where the family home technically belongs to all siblings but where only one sibling resides with the permission of the others and where there is an application for a grant for adaptation SI 612/2024 the income of all the siblings is taken into account as part of the assessment process; the way in which the sibling living in the family home can prove that the other siblings make no financial contribution; and if being able to proves this would mean accessing the grant if means allow.

PQ78564/26 | LOUISE O'REILLY

347. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the funding options that are available for small AHBs or community housing bodies to grow housing stock.

PQ78470/26 | MALCOLM BYRNE

348. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of units built on brownfield sites in 2026 to date; the average number per site; and the actions he has taken to increase brownfield development.

PQ78584/26 | THOMAS GOULD

349. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to Parliamentary Question No. 692 of 12 May 2026, the details of the way in which a person who has a recommendation for adaptation which they cannot finance and which is required for their safety, health and dignity should proceed; the funding available to bridge the gap where the grants do not cover the amount and the person does not have the means to cover this; the supports in place where this shortfall cannot be met.

PQ78567/26 | LOUISE O'REILLY

350. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to expedite the affordable housing schemes in Killarney and Tralee; and to roll out a scheme in the towns of Killorglin, Cahersiveen, Dingle, Castleisland, Kenmare and Listowel as a matter of priority.

PQ78552/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

351. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the timeline for the establishment of a regulator for owners' management companies; when the transfer of responsibility for the Multi-Unit Developments Act 2011 to his Department will be completed; the timeline for commencement and planned scope of the review of the Act; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78534/26 | RODERIC O'GORMAN

352. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage further to previous representations and Parliamentary Questions, to request Met Éireann to urgently deal with a matter in south Kerry that has delayed the development of a walk on Valentia Island with funding secured from the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht through the outdoor recreation infrastructure scheme.

PQ78530/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

353. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether the need for specific planning guidance for solar farm developments has been identified by his Department, as envisaged in the reply of 20 June 2018 (PQ23916/18) which stated that his Department and the Department of Communications, Climate Action and the Environment were “exploring the potential for enhancing national planning guidance on solar energy”; the date on which that need was identified; the progress made in the intervening period; and the indicative date for publication of the National Planning Statement on solar energy development.

PQ78637/26 | MAIRÉAD FARRELL

354. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to expedite the low costs sites scheme in Cahersiveen, given the fact there are sites available for some time, to roll out a scheme in the towns of Killorglin, Killarney, Dingle, Castleisland, Kenmare, Tralee and Listowel as a matter of priority.

PQ78553/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

355. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether his Department has considered reintroducing the Eurasian lynx to Ireland to help control deer populations and support the regeneration of native woodlands.

PQ78645/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

Chun an Coimirce Sóisialaí: To the Social Protection

356. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the financial supports, if any, that are available to families with minor children who have received a final negative decision their international protection application, or a deportation order or return order.

PQ78382/26 | EOIN Ó BROIN

357. To ask the Minister for Social Protection further to Parliamentary Question No. 1983 of 28 of July, the progress and latest engagements he has had with the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality on the Programme for Government commitment to introduce paid surrogacy leave since June 2026.

PQ78374/26 | PAUL MCAULIFFE

358. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if his Department plans to run a new recruitment campaign for Community Welfare Officers within the Department early in the year.

PQ78463/26 | SORCA CLARKE

359. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to confirm the status of a person's application (details supplied) for the household benefits package; and when a decision is likely to be reached in this case.

PQ78487/26 | COLM BURKE

360. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will provide clarification regarding the unique obligations in respect of eligible recipients of maternity benefit from his Department who are partaking in a scheme (details supplied); if their receipt of maternity benefit continues to allow them to attend or vote at monthly meetings of their local authority without impacting their payment; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78490/26 | MICHEÁL CARRIGY

361. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to confirm the status of a person's (details supplied) fuel allowance and household benefit applications; and when a decision on these is likely to issue.

PQ78495/26 | COLM BURKE

362. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he is aware of the financial and emotional hardship caused to families who have pursued surrogacy after experiencing repeated pregnancy loss and infertility.

PQ78510/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

363. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the amount that the Citizens Information Board spent on public information campaigns from 2020 to date in 2026, broken down by year; and the amount of that expenditure that was spent on social media advertising, in tabular form.

PQ78622/26 | SINÉAD GIBNEY

364. To ask the Minister for Social Protection whether the Citizens Information Board has ongoing initiatives to combat online disinformation related to their remit for disseminating public information; and the expenditure associated with any such initiative.

PQ78635/26 | SINÉAD GIBNEY

365. To ask the Minister for Social Protection whether the Citizens Information Board is taking any action or otherwise addressing the prevalence of incorrect and outdated information being promoted by AI Overviews and attributed to the Board; and if so, the actions being taken.

PQ78627/26 | SINÉAD GIBNEY

366. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason a person with a lifelong severe disability who transitions from disability allowance to the State Pension (Contributory) upon reaching the age of 66 is excluded from disability-specific supports and once-off disability payments, including the recently announced cost of disability payment; if his attention has been drawn to concerns that the additional costs associated with a permanent disability continue beyond pension age; and whether his Department has considered extending such supports to pensioners with lifelong disabilities.

PQ78658/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

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

367. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration for an update on a citizenship application (details supplied); and the timeline for the applicant to receive notification of the outcome.

PQ78408/26 | EMER CURRIE

368. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration to consider introducing a mechanism for persons coming from a country suffering a genocide that this be considered while his Department is making decisions on student visas that flexibility for the requirement to have specific documents is introduced.

PQ78404/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

369. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if he will expedite refuse visa appeals by students from Palestine who are challenging the decision made by his Department to refuse their visas.

PQ78403/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

370. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the visa offices internationally process and determine visa applications under delegated sanction; and the locations.

PQ78337/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

371. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the information that is flagged at the initial processing of a visa application before it is forwarded to the correct processing sub-department.

PQ78335/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

372. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration when a visa application arrives to the relevant office, is the nationality of the applicant flagged as or before it is forwarded.

PQ78334/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

373. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of deportation orders or return orders have been issued to single adults, families, and children from Afghanistan, Sudan, Somalia, Syria, Yemen, Palestine, per year since 2022, in tabular form.

PQ78387/26 | EOIN Ó BROIN

374. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of requests to revoke a deportation order that were submitted; and the number of deportation orders that were successfully revoked, from 2022 to date in 2026, in tabular form.

PQ78386/26 | EOIN Ó BROIN

375. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of families and children that have been issued with a final negative decision on their asylum application; the number of those have been issued with a deportation order, per year since 2022.

PQ78385/26 | EOIN Ó BROIN

376. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of international protection applicants who availed of the higher rate of assisted voluntary return payments; at which point they exited the international protection process; whether they were single adults, families or children; and their nationalities, in tabular form.

PQ78384/26 | EOIN Ó BROIN

377. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of persons in the international protection process who availed of assisted voluntary return programmes in each year from 2020 to date in 2026; and the number of those who were single adults, families, and children, in tabular form.

PQ78383/26 | EOIN Ó BROIN

378. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of single people, families and minor children currently living in IPAS accommodation with an active deportation order, in tabular form.

PQ78381/26 | EOIN Ó BROIN

379. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration further to Parliamentary Question No. 528 on 29 September 2026 if he has received the necessary information from Garda Authorities to answer this PQ.

PQ78434/26 | SORCA CLARKE

380. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration further to Parliamentary Question No. 529 on 29 September 2026 if he has received the necessary information from Garda Authorities to answer this PQ.

PQ78433/26 | SORCA CLARKE

381. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the annual number of alleged offences of perjury or attempting to pervert the course of justice arising in civil proceedings heard otherwise than in public, recorded by An Garda Síochána from July 2019 to the latest available date, as supplied to his Department; and where those figures cannot be identified, whether the answer reflects no recorded cases or an inability to extract the requested category.

PQ78348/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

382. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of persons on the sex offenders register, by county.

PQ78573/26 | AIDAN FARRELLY

383. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of assaults by prisoners on prisoners, in each prison, in each of the first nine months of 2026; his views on whether overcrowding in prisons in a factor in the increase and if he will make a statement on the matter

PQ78571/26 | AIDAN FARRELLY

384. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of assaults by prisoners on staff, in each prison, in each of the first nine months of 2026; the corresponding figures for 2025; his views on whether overcrowding in the country's prisons in a factor in the increase; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78570/26 | AIDAN FARRELLY

385. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of solicitors that are currently on the criminal legal aid panel; and the number who were on the criminal legal aid panel on 31 July 2026.

PQ78598/26 | AIDAN FARRELLY

386. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the way in which the number of persons that have been jailed for sex offences for the first nine months of this year compares to the numbers jailed for the first nine months of last year; the number of sex offenders have availed of treatment programmes in Irish prisons in 2025 and to date in 2026; and the number of prisoners that applied to participate in the programmes in 2025 and in 2026.

PQ78575/26 | AIDAN FARRELLY

387. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of sex offenders currently jailed across the Irish prison systems; and the number of sex offenders currently jailed in each prison.

PQ78574/26 | AIDAN FARRELLY

388. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the amount paid in criminal legal aid certificates under the new flat fee system in October 2025 and October 2026; and the breakdown of the amounts paid out in new criminal legal aid certificates, by district office or by county.

PQ78593/26 | AIDAN FARRELLY

389. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the amount that has been paid in criminal legal aid certificates under the new flat fee system since its introduction; and the amounts paid out in new criminal legal aid certificates, by district court or by county.

PQ78590/26 | AIDAN FARRELLY

390. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the level of Garda resources serving the community in Courtown/Riverchapel given that is the fifth largest urban settlement in County Wexford.

PQ78562/26 | MALCOLM BYRNE

391. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if he can outline what the proceeds for CAB are used for; and if he will consider putting some of this funding going forward into projects like the drive project.

PQ78518/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

392. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration to undertake to grant visas to all Gaza students who have been refused to date given a recent court decision (details supplied); to give an assurance that the other students will not be forced to also take court action and that the State will not appeal the decision in this case at taxpayers' expense.

PQ78609/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

393. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the steps that have been taken to implement the specific recommendation in the Garda Training Review Group ident regarding the delivery of a suitable facility in the greater Dublin area, given that this was identified as 'an early priority'.

PQ78617/26 | MARIE SHERLOCK

394. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the number of occasions that Department officials have met with the OPW to discuss the implementation of the recommendations of the Garda Training Review Group since its publication in June 2026.

PQ78618/26 | MARIE SHERLOCK

395. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration the status of a citizenship application (details supplied) in view that it is 46 months since the application was submitted; whether any further documentation or information is required, clarification as to the cause of the delay in view that it was previously indicated in March 2026 that a decision would be reached in 12 weeks.

PQ78632/26 | COLM BURKE

396. To ask the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration if he supports the specific recommendations within the Garda Training Review Group for the delivery of a suitable Garda training facility in the greater Dublin area; and if he accepts the findings of the review group that this should be “an early priority”.

PQ78620/26 | MARIE SHERLOCK

Chun an Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara: To the Agriculture, Food and the Marine

397. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the type of grants and government entitlements sheep owners are entitled to; the criteria for such entitlements; and the way in which these are funded.

PQ78428/26 | MARK WALL

398. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if bovines are more susceptible to the bluetongue virus compared to ovines; and the recommended treatment for those animals that are infected.

PQ78372/26 | MARTIN KENNY

399. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the supports that are available to farmers to reduce nutrient and silage run-off into nearby watercourses.

PQ78457/26 | LOUIS O'HARA

400. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of bovines and ovines that have contracted Bluetongue including fatalities and recoveries from the disease to date.

PQ78359/26 | MARTIN KENNY

401. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine further to Parliamentary Question No. 73759/26, to provide an update on a matter (details supplied).

PQ78581/26 | MICHAEL HEALY-RAE

402. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if documentation exists which can prove that a cohort of dogs (details supplied) were euthanised by a registered veterinary practitioner, and that the decision was supported by an appropriate welfare assessment; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78551/26 | SORCA CLARKE

403. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of the 428 non-coursing greyhounds reported on a system (details supplied) as ‘euthanised as unsuitable as pet’ underwent a behavioural assessment before being deemed unsuitable for rehoming; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78550/26 | SORCA CLARKE

404. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the specific conditions that caused the deaths of a cohort of non-coursing greyhounds (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78549/26 | SORCA CLARKE

405. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the terminal illnesses responsible for the deaths of a cohort of non-coursing greyhounds (details supplied) with a breakdown by diagnosis; the number of these illnesses that were confirmed by a veterinary practitioner; the number that were based solely on information supplied by the owner or trainer; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78548/26 | SORCA CLARKE

406. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to consider appointing a representative of the tillage sector to the Board of Teagasc at the next opportunity.

PQ78515/26 | MALCOLM BYRNE

407. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to review a matter (details supplied) regarding aquaculture licenses.

PQ78559/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

408. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to review a decision to grant a salmon farm licence that had expired for a site in County Kerry, (details supplied); and if he will consider the consequences of this decision on jobs in the locality and on the hospitality sector.

PQ78558/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

Chun an Leanaí, Míchumais agus Comhionannais: To the Children, Disability and Equality

409. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she will review matters raised in correspondence (details supplied); if she will address the concerns raised; and if she will provide an update on the matters outlined.

PQ78405/26 | NIAMH SMYTH

410. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she will make a High Court application for technical documents relating to burials at the site of the Bessborough mother and baby institution as announced on 20 October 2026; if she will also apply to the High Court for anonymised witness evidence regarding potential burials relating to Bessborough under section 12 of the Commission of Investigation Act 2004 (details supplied).

PQ78401/26 | CIARÁN AHERN

411. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she will apply to the High Court for the detailed index or finding aid to the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation archive because the archives chapter of the commission’s final report is highly inconsistent in the level of detail given per source of information, and access to the detailed index/finding aid is essential for the purpose of legislating for the future archive at the National Centre for Research and Remembrance.

PQ78418/26 | CIARÁN AHERN

412. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality further to Parliamentary Question No. 233 of 29 of April 2026, the latest engagements she had with the Minister for Social Protection and the Minster for Health on the Programme for Government commitment to introduce paid surrogacy leave.

PQ78373/26 | PAUL MCAULIFFE

413. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the number of WTE adult speech and language therapists posts filled within adult disability services in St Joseph's care centre, Longford as of 23 October 2026, in tabular form.

PQ78451/26 | SORCA CLARKE

414. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the legislative measures being considered to provide intended parents through domestic or international surrogacy arrangements with leave entitlements equivalent to maternity leave; and the timeline for the introduction of such measures.

PQ78511/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

415. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to clarify Government's plans regarding the introduction of statutory paid surrogacy leave; and whether will she expedite this important matter.

PQ78524/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

416. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to consider the former convent in Listowel, County Kerry as a centre for childcare services given the population of Listowel town and its hinterland; and when the next announcement will be made in relation to these services.

PQ78532/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

417. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the measures that have been taken to address the shortage of early childcare places across County Kerry.

PQ78531/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

418. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to provide the latest figure for the number of children awaiting an assessment of need; to outline the plans for reducing the waiting list; and the plans to address the difficulties in accessing assessments and therapies.

PQ78555/26 | RUAIRÍ Ó MURCHÚ

419. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the CDNT4 list figures for both children awaiting an initial assessment for speech and language therapy, and for children who have been assessed and are waiting to receive treatment; and the details of the steps her Department is taking to reduce the CDNT4 waitlists.

PQ78616/26 | SINÉAD GIBNEY

420. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to consider and respond to matters raised in correspondence (details supplied) regarding a child's extremely lengthy wait for access to a cognitive assessment.

PQ78611/26 | EOIN Ó BROIN

421. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to provide a breakdown of the current staffing levels and vacancies at Dungarvan children's disability network team, including occupational therapists, speech and language therapists, dietitians, psychologists and nursing staff; the number of children currently awaiting these services and the longest waiting times; the recruitment plans and timelines that are in place to fill existing vacancies; the interim supports that are being provided to children with complex needs who are currently without essential therapies.

PQ78602/26 | CONOR D. MCGUINNESS

422. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality to outline the speech and language therapy supports in place for children with significant communication needs, who are excluded from supports delivered under the Glór Programme.

PQ78554/26 | WILLIAM AIRD

423. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the status of the introduction of paid surrogacy leave for families who have taken this route.

PQ78563/26 | MICHAEL HEALY-RAE

424. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the CDNT4 list figures for both children awaiting an initial assessment for speech and language therapy, and for children who have been assessed and are waiting to receive treatment; and the details of the steps her Department is taking to reduce the CDNT4 waitlists.

PQ78615/26 | SINÉAD GIBNEY

425. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality if she will provide an update on plans to introduce a statutory paid surrogacy leave scheme equivalent to maternity leave for intended parents (details supplied).

PQ78828/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

426. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality her plans regarding the introduction of statutory paid surrogacy leave; and will she expedite this important matter.

PQ78522/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

427. To ask the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality the Government's plans regarding the introduction of statutory paid surrogacy leave; and whether she will expedite this important matter.

PQ78523/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

Chun an Sláinte: To the Health

428. To ask the Minister for Health if there are circumstances in which the Health Service Executive will provide financial support to a person to undergo a medical procedure in another jurisdiction.

PQ78432/26 | EAMON SCANLON

429. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE psychologist posts filled at Celbridge CAMHS Team as of 27 October 2026, in tabular form.

PQ78439/26 | SORCA CLARKE

430. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE registrar in rheumatologist posts filled at Beaumont Hospital as of 27 October 2026, in tabular form.

PQ78438/26 | SORCA CLARKE

431. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE audiologists posts by grade filled at Mullingar primary care centre as of 21 October 2026, in tabular form.

PQ78437/26 | SORCA CLARKE

432. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE audiologists posts by grade filled at Mullingar primary care centre as of 21 October 2026, in tabular form.

PQ78459/26 | SORCA CLARKE

433. To ask the Minister for Health the resources being made available to ensure sufficient appropriately qualified healthcare professionals are in place to undertake the required assessments and support the treatment pathway; and the timeline in place to ensure that eligible adults can access risdiplam without avoidable delay.

PQ78445/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

434. To ask the Minister for Health the steps being taken, in conjunction with the HSE, to address delays in clinical assessments for adults with SMA seeking access to risdiplam.

PQ78444/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

435. To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE registrar in rheumatologist posts filled at Beaumont Hospital as of 27th October 2026, in tabular form.

PQ78460/26 | SORCA CLARKE

436. To ask the Minister for Health if the additional 25 nurse specialist posts under the Neurology Model of Care were condition-specific (details supplied); if so, the breakdown, by clinical specialty and whole-time equivalent posts funded and recruited; and the location of these posts by HSE health region.

PQ78378/26 | EOGHAN KENNY

437. To ask the Minister for Health if an appointment will be expedited for a person (details supplied).

PQ78379/26 | MICHAEL HEALY-RAE

438. To ask the Minister for Health the number of cancellations that arose as a result of the temporary closure of the surgical hub in the CUH.

PQ78364/26 | THOMAS GOULD

439. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients currently awaiting treatment that could be delivered in the surgical hub in CUH.

PQ78363/26 | THOMAS GOULD

440. To ask the Minister for Health whether any patients were seen in the surgical hub in CUH from the initial date of opening to the first closure.

PQ78362/26 | THOMAS GOULD

441. To ask the Minister for Health when she was made aware of the closure of the surgical hub in CUH.

PQ78361/26 | THOMAS GOULD

442. To ask the Minister for Health the total amount spent on the surgical hub in CUH; and the amount now needed to resolve issues with the closure.

PQ78360/26 | THOMAS GOULD

443. To ask the Minister for Health the number of women whose pregnancy was registered to the domino scheme in CUH in September 2019, 2022, 2024 and 2026.

PQ78358/26 | THOMAS GOULD

444. To ask the Minister for Health the number of midwives employed specifically to the domino scheme in CUH in September 2019, 2022, 2024 and 2026.

PQ78357/26 | THOMAS GOULD

445. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients seen in Southdoc, Kinsale Road with an Eircode address starting in T23 in October 2019, 2024, 2025, and 2026.

PQ78356/26 | THOMAS GOULD

446. To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients seen in Southdoc Blackpool in October 2019, 2024, 2025 and 2026.

PQ78355/26 | THOMAS GOULD

447. To ask the Minister for Health if she will outline the specific health and mental health resources being deployed to support Clare County Council’s winter homelessness plan; and the way in which the HSE is coordinating with local authorities to manage the healthcare needs of individuals entering emergency accommodation this winter.

PQ78347/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

448. To ask the Minister for Health the steps her Department is taking in conjunction with the HSE and Clare County Council to mitigate the risk of delayed hospital discharges at University Hospital Limerick and Ennis Hospital due to the national shortfall of 500 step-down, supported homeless beds; and the current number of individuals facing delayed discharge in the region due to a lack of appropriate medical-social step-down accommodation.

PQ78346/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

449. To ask the Minister for Health the number of ICU beds that have been delivered in each of the years 2020 to 2025 and to date in 2026, by site, in tabular form; and the remaining number planned for delivery in the coming years.

PQ78485/26 | PÁDRAIG RICE

450. To ask the Minister for Health the status of a proposal to expand the endoscopy unit in Cork University Hospital; the current available provision in the existing unit; the expansion sought under this proposal; and if she will commit to funding the expansion.

PQ78483/26 | PÁDRAIG RICE

451. To ask the Minister for Health the amount spent by the HSE on private hospital bed capacity in each of the years 2020 to 2025 and to date in 2026.

PQ78482/26 | PÁDRAIG RICE

452. To ask the Minister for Health the estimated daily and annual cost of contracting a private hospital bed to increase capacity.

PQ78481/26 | PÁDRAIG RICE

453. To ask the Minister for Health the average daily and annual cost of running an acute inpatient bed, ICU bed, sub-acute bed and community bed, by cost type.

PQ78480/26 | PÁDRAIG RICE

454. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the Patient Safety (Licensing) Bill; and the timeline for publication.

PQ78479/26 | PÁDRAIG RICE

455. To ask the Minister for Health the number of external home support providers contracted by the HSE; and to provide a list of their names.

PQ78478/26 | PÁDRAIG RICE

456. To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE conducted a comprehensive national audit of sonographer qualifications across contracted providers following a media report (details supplied); if any investigations or corrective actions were taken; and if the HSE will undertake an independent national review and publish its findings, including any identified contractual non-compliance.

PQ78477/26 | PÁDRAIG RICE

457. To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE confirmed that all practitioners conducting publicly funded ultrasound examinations meet the stipulated postgraduate qualification requirements or formally recognised equivalents; and the manner in which such assurances were sought and verified.

PQ78476/26 | PÁDRAIG RICE

458. To ask the Minister for Health if realistic external nipple areola prostheses can be included under the national post-mastectomy allowance; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78489/26 | JENNIFER WHITMORE

459. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 3157 of 14 April 2026, if the HSE mid west's position remains unchanged regarding the outsourcing of radiotherapy to a new private provider in Limerick (details supplied).

PQ78475/26 | PÁDRAIG RICE

460. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 1228 of 28 April 2026, to provide an update on the review of the national tobacco control policy, Tobacco Free Ireland; and if it is still her intention to publish the revised policy by year end.

PQ78474/26 | PÁDRAIG RICE

461. To ask the Minister for Health to outline in detail the reason the south west surgical hub was closed temporarily (details supplied); the length of time it was closed; the manner in which the issues which lead to its closure were identified; the date these issues were identified; and the number of patients seen in the new hub between its opening and temporary closure.

PQ78473/26 | PÁDRAIG RICE

462. To ask the Minister for Health whether a value for money assessment was carried out by her Department or the HSE before new arrangements were put in place for outsourced GP haematology testing for Mayo University Hospital, comparing the cost of outsourcing with filling vacant medical scientist posts; if so, whether she will publish that assessment; if not, the reason; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78499/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

463. To ask the Minister for Health her policy on the outsourcing of routine GP laboratory testing by public hospitals to private providers, in view of the limited number of providers able to deliver this service; whether the HSE has a plan to restore in-house laboratory capacity for this work, including at Mayo University Hospital; the timeline for same; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78498/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

464. To ask the Minister for Health the total expenditure by Mayo University Hospital on outsourced GP haematology testing in each of the years 2024, 2025 and to date in 2026; the projected expenditure for 2027; the average daily number of samples sent for external testing; and the number of whole-time equivalent medical scientist posts that would be required to carry out this work in-house; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78497/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

465. To ask the Minister for Health whether the arrangement for outsourced GP haematology testing for Mayo University Hospital from November 2026 was awarded following a competitive tender process; if not, the procurement procedure used and the reason; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78494/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

466. To ask the Minister for Health the total expenditure by Mayo University Hospital on outsourced GP haematology testing in each of the years 2022,2023 2024, 2025 and to date in 2026; the projected expenditure for 2027; the average daily number of samples sent for external testing; the number of whole-time equivalent medical scientist posts that would be required to carry out this work in-house; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ78493/26 | PAUL LAWLESS

467. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on the work of the External Expert Panel (EEP) established following the independent audit on hip surgery thresholds for children with developmental dysplasia of the hip in Children's Health Ireland and the National Orthopaedic Hospital Cappagh; if the EPP's work has commenced; the number of cases subject to review by the EEP; the number of cases that have been reviewed to date; and the timeline for completing the EEP reviews entirely.

PQ78471/26 | PÁDRAIG RICE

468. To ask the Minister for Health when the dementia units in St. Finbarr's and Heather House will open.

PQ78603/26 | THOMAS GOULD

469. To ask the Minister for Health the timeline in place to ensure that eligible adults with SMA can access risdiplam without avoidable delay.

PQ78545/26 | WILLIAM AIRD

470. To ask the Minister for Health the resources being made available to ensure sufficient appropriately qualified healthcare professionals are in place to undertake the required assessments and support the treatment pathway for adults with SMA.

PQ78544/26 | WILLIAM AIRD

471. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 68194/26, to provide, the terms of each public concession agreement operating in each applicable hospital in the State under Directive 2014/23/EU, in tabular form; to detail whether this is a fixed fee, a percentage of gross turnover or a percentage of profit.

PQ78514/26 | RUAIRÍ Ó MURCHÚ

472. To ask the Minister for Health the steps being taken, in conjunction with the HSE, to address delays in clinical assessments for adults with SMA seeking access to risdiplam.

PQ78543/26 | WILLIAM AIRD

473. To ask the Minister for Health to lay out a complete timeline for the completion of the external expert panel review on the appropriateness of pelvic osteotomy surgeries performed for developmental dysplasia of the hip established in 2025.

PQ78509/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

474. To ask the Minister for Health to consider extending the timeline for investigation for the Inquiry into CHI spina bifida and complex scoliosis services to include cases before the establishment of CHI in 2019.

PQ78508/26 | RUTH COPPINGER

475. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the request for a health technology assessment of continuous glucose monitoring for people living with Type 2 diabetes, following a debate in the Seanad (details supplied); whether the Department or HSE has engaged with HIQA in relation to such an assessment; the current status of the request; and the further steps that are required.

PQ78507/26 | RYAN O'MEARA

476. To ask the Minister for Health the assessment that has been made of the potential impact of wider access to continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) for people living with Type 2 diabetes on demand for diabetes-related healthcare services; and whether the HSE has assessed the potential for CGM to support effective self-management of diabetes and reduce pressure on healthcare services.

PQ78506/26 | RYAN O'MEARA

477. To ask the Minister for Health the plans that are in place to expand access to continuous glucose monitoring for people living with Type 2 diabetes; the work being undertaken by the Department of Health and the HSE to assess potential eligibility criteria; and when a decision on wider access can be expected.

PQ78504/26 | RYAN O'MEARA

478. To ask the Minister for Health to ensure a person (details supplied) can receive the treatment they need and have been approved for as a matter of urgency; and that all necessary resources are made available to ensure that happens.

PQ78500/26 | DONNA MCGETTIGAN

479. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the HSE is withdrawing contract offers from graduate nurses who had already been offered positions; the breakdown by hospital of the offers withdrawn; the way in which the HSE intends to fill these posts or whether they will remain vacant; and if this effectively represents a new recruitment ban.

PQ78608/26 | MATTIE MCGRATH

480. To ask the Minister for Health to expedite the provision of a new oncology and haematology unit at University Hospital Kerry.

PQ78528/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

481. To ask the Minister for Health the amount that the Food Safety Authority spent on public information campaigns from 2020 to date in 2026, broken down by year; and the amount of that expenditure that was spent on social media advertising, in tabular form.

PQ78624/26 | SINÉAD GIBNEY

482. To ask the Minister for Health whether the Food Safety Authority is taking any action or otherwise addressing the prevalence of incorrect and outdated public information being promoted by AI overviews and attributed to the Authority.

PQ78630/26 | SINÉAD GIBNEY

483. To ask the Minister for Health whether the Food Safety Authority has ongoing initiatives to combat online disinformation related to their remit for disseminating public information; and if so, the expenditure associated with any such initiative.

PQ78638/26 | SINÉAD GIBNEY

484. To ask the Minister for Health in respect of ancillary State support (the nursing home loan) under the nursing homes support scheme, the total amount advanced; the total amount recovered from estates; the average time between a resident's death and repayment; the amount written off or deemed unrecoverable; and the proportion of scheme residents who own a principal private residence on entry to the scheme, for each of the years 2021 to 2025, in tabular form.

PQ78643/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

485. To ask the Minister for Health the progress that has been made with the Health (Assisted Human Reproduction) Act 2024 in relation to a surrogacy payment.

PQ78642/26 | DANNY HEALY-RAE

486. To ask the Minister for Health if she will consider extending the timeframe of the proposed CHI Commission of Investigation beyond 2019, given that concerns relating to paediatric orthopaedic surgeries may pre-date the establishment of CHI.

PQ78648/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

487. To ask the Minister for Health the reason for the further delay to the External Expert Panel Review into Developmental Dysplasia of the Hip (DDH) cases; and when the review is now expected to be completed.

PQ78647/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

488. To ask the Minister for Health the total annual cost of administering the nursing homes support scheme in each of the years 2021 to 2025 and to date in 2026 by the HSE's nursing homes support offices and the national office in Tullamore, the national treatment purchase fund in respect of price negotiations, the Revenue Commissioners in respect of ancillary state support and her Department; the number of whole-time equivalent staff engaged in the administration of the scheme in each year; and the average administrative cost per application processed, in tabular form.

PQ78644/26 | BARRY HENEGHAN

489. To ask the Minister for Health if she will consider expanding the drive programme so that local co-ordinators can be appointed through the local drugs task forces to implement the national programme at local level (details supplied).

PQ78516/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

490. To ask the Minister for Health if funding will be allocated towards a local publicity campaign highlighting the drive project.

PQ78517/26 | JOHN PAUL O'SHEA

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

491. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if his Department will consider allowing domiciliary care allowance recipients to be eligible for the Springboard+ initiative.

PQ78446/26 | JOE NEVILLE

492. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science his plans to ensure advertising for third level courses that lead to teaching council registration are correct .

PQ78375/26 | JEN CUMMINS

493. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of applicants currently awaiting a Youthreach placement in County Westmeath; the current capacity of Youthreach provision in this country; and if he will outline any plans to expand Youthreach capacity in County Westmeath.

PQ78467/26 | SORCA CLARKE

494. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of applicants currently awaiting a Youthreach placement in County Westmeath; the current capacity of Youthreach provision in this country; and if he will outline the plans to expand Youthreach capacity in County Westmeath.

PQ78452/26 | SORCA CLARKE

495. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to urgently allow for the granting of SUSI to a person (details supplied) given this application has been in review for a prolonged period, as the college term is well underway and this student urgently needs financial assistance.

PQ78450/26 | MICHAEL CAHILL

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

496. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht the number of females at each grade of higher executive officer and above currently working within his Department, in tabular form.

PQ78449/26 | SORCA CLARKE

497. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht when the awards for the TVRS grant will be announced; and whether consideration will be given to an application (details supplied).

PQ78599/26 | COLM BURKE

498. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht when the awards for the Community Centre Investment Fund will be announced.

PQ78596/26 | COLM BURKE