



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Dé Céadaoin, 6 Nollaig, 2023
Wednesday, 6th December, 2023

CEISTEANNA
QUESTIONS

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CEISTEANNA I gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

Chun an Taoisigh: To the Taoiseach.

1. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet. — Alan Dillon. [52251/23]
2. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet. — Paul McAuliffe. [53190/23]
3. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [53191/23]
4. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet. — Mick Barry. [53403/23]
5. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will meet next. — Alan Dillon. [53465/23]
6. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet. — Mary Lou McDonald. [53575/23]
7. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [53589/23]
8. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet. — Paul Murphy. [53592/23]
9. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet. — Peadar Tóibín. [53697/23]
10. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet. — Cian O'Callaghan. [53748/23]
11. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing will next meet. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [53902/23]
12. To ask the Taoiseach to report on the work of the parliamentary liaison unit in his Department. — Mick Barry. [52325/23]
13. To ask the Taoiseach to report on the work of the parliamentary liaison unit in his Department. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [53907/23]

14. To ask the Taoiseach to report on the work of the parliamentary liaison unit in his Department. — Paul Murphy. [53910/23]

15. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of the National Economic and Social Council, a statutory agency operating under the aegis of his Department. — Mary Lou McDonald. [52330/23]

16. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of the National Economic and Social Council, a statutory agency operating under the aegis of his Department. — Brendan Smith. [53189/23]

17. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of the National Economic and Social Council, a statutory agency operating under the aegis of his Department. — Mick Barry. [53404/23]

18. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of the National Economic and Social Council, a statutory agency operating under the aegis of his Department. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [53489/23]

19. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of the National Economic and Social Council, a statutory agency operating under the aegis of his Department. — Cian O'Callaghan. [53749/23]

20. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of the National Economic and Social Council, a statutory agency operating under the aegis of his Department. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [53842/23]

21. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of the National Economic and Social Council, a statutory agency operating under the aegis of his Department. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [53908/23]

22. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of the National Economic and Social Council, a statutory agency operating under the aegis of his Department. — Paul Murphy. [53911/23]

23. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Social Affairs and Public Services will meet next. — Bernard J. Durkan. [52551/23]

24. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Social Affairs and Public Service will next meet. — Paul McAuliffe. [53903/23]

25. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Social Affairs and Public Service will next meet. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [53904/23]

26. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his attendance at the recent meeting of the British-Irish Council. — Brendan Smith. [53188/23]

27. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his attendance at COP 28. — Christopher O'Sullivan. [53276/23]

28. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his attendance at the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 28). — Mick Barry. [53405/23]

29. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his recent attendance at COP 28. — Bernard J. Durkan. [53525/23]

30. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his Department's new publication entitled Government Response to Ireland's Competitiveness Challenge 2023. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [53909/23]

31. To ask the Taoiseach to report on his Department's new publication entitled Government Response to Ireland's Competitiveness Challenge 2023. — Paul Murphy. [53912/23]

CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Chun an Taoisigh: To the Taoiseach.

*32. To ask the Taoiseach with regard to the promised public enquiry into Covid 19, if he will clarify when he anticipates the terms of reference for that promised enquiry will be cleared with Government; and if he will commit to engaging fully with all concerned relevant stakeholders, advocacy groups, care workers, families and relatives of those affected. — Patricia Ryan. [54011/23]

*33. To ask the Taoiseach the main policy achievements of his Department in 2023. — Emer Higgins. [54072/23]

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

*34. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Constitution, how many Irish citizens have applied for permission to receive a title from a foreign state, in tabular form, since the constitution came into being, broken down by year; whether such an application was accepted or not; and the state that proposed to grant the title. — Patrick Costello. [54042/23]

*35. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs what penalties, if any, exist for those who are in breach of Article 40.2.2 of the Constitution and accept foreign titles without Irish Government permission. — Patrick Costello. [54043/23]

*36. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will make a representation to the US authorities about a case (details supplied). — Paul Murphy. [54041/23]

*37. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs the main policy achievements of his Department in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [54078/23]

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

*38. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if the EPA has any future plans to expand the monitoring of permanent air quality testing systems on site in

Drogheda south; if not, the reason why; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [53926/23]

*39. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if he will outline the procedure through which an area in the blue commercial area can be transferred to the NBI area; and if he will indicate whether any such transfers have taken place. — Richard Bruton. [53978/23]

*40. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications if the smaller petrol stations and shops will be given a bigger grant for the deposit return scheme, as in the case of a person (details supplied). — Kathleen Funchion. [54006/23]

*41. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications to provide a breakdown of the different sectors that the €169 million Just Transition Fund will be targeted towards; and if there will be a specific funding stream for assisting job creation in private companies. — Brian Stanley. [54008/23]

*42. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications the current status of the codes of practice for CCTV, particularly in relation to their use by local authorities for the detection of dumping, following recent developments where the LGMA submitted the codes of practice to him for approval; when these codes will be approved (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [54119/23]

*43. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications how much money has Eirgrid expended to date on the development of the North South Interconnector; and how much money has Eirgrid spent on the construction of the North South Interconnector. — Peadar Tóibín. [54170/23]

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

*44. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence if he is satisfied that Irish neutrality is being upheld (details supplied), considering the recent training of Ukrainian soldiers at Kilworth army camp in County Cork; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [54142/23]

Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.

*45. To ask the Minister for Transport if his Department could reverse the revoking of the funding for the Naas Mobility Network Integration Pathfinder Project (details supplied) and meet with officials of Kildare County Council to agree a timeline for the delivery of these infrastructural changes in Naas, County Kildare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [53919/23]

*46. To ask the Minister for Transport the reason for the delay in proving driving tests (details supplied); the measures his Department will be taking to shorten these delays; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [53929/23]

*47. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will address the urgent concerns of the Durrow community and all parties who are affected in any way by the dangers presented by the N52 on the stretch of road between the N4 intersection at Kilbeggan to the Tullamore bypass; if he will

support efforts to have the funding reinstated to proceed with the new bypass route as planned and already agreed, without any further delay; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [53952/23]

*48. To ask the Minister for Transport if there is a requirement to provide type 2 charging connections at all EV charging hubs in the State with a particular reference to service stations on or just off motorways. — Patrick Costello. [53968/23]

*49. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will clarify if there are any plans for Monasterevin, County Kildare to be designated a commuter town; if so, when would he envision this happening; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [54010/23]

*50. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide, in tabular form, the number of taxi licences issued to non-national drivers in the years 2020, 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023. — Patricia Ryan. [54013/23]

*51. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will detail the criteria required to qualify for a taxi licence; if any different criteria apply to national and non-national applicants; and if so, what those differences are and the reasons behind them. — Patricia Ryan. [54014/23]

*52. To ask the Minister for Transport how many additional driving test examiners have been put in place in County Kildare. — Patricia Ryan. [54017/23]

*53. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has plans to increase the number of train services to Monasterevin Train Station, County Kildare to make it a more commuter-friendly town. — Patricia Ryan. [54020/23]

*54. To ask the Minister for Transport the status of funding for the Ardee by-pass; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [54029/23]

*55. To ask the Minister for Transport the main policy achievements of his Department in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [54077/23]

*56. To ask the Minister for Transport if he will provide reminders/advertising on trains that bikes, with the exception of foldable bikes, are not allowed on trains during peak travel times. — Louise O'Reilly. [54100/23]

*57. To ask the Minister for Transport the expected date of the implementation of the F spine as part of the BusConnects programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [54152/23]

*58. To ask the Minister for Transport the expected date of the implementation of the E spine as part of the BusConnects programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [54153/23]

*59. To ask the Minister for Transport the expected date of the implementation of the A spine as part of the BusConnects programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul McAuliffe. [54154/23]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*60. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on the ending of agricultural relief from January 2024; if he will review correspondence from a person (details supplied) and clarify their entitlements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [53946/23]

*61. To ask the Minister for Finance whether his Department has issued any guidelines to the National Treasury Management Agency with regard to ethical investment, particularly the need to not invest in the arms industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Neasa Hourigan. [53947/23]

*62. To ask the Minister for Finance if the local property tax applies to buildings only and not to each unit in a multi-unit, pre-1963 property; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [54049/23]

*63. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of appeals for the primary medical certificate there are currently in counties Longford and Westmeath, in tabular form; and how long these people have been waiting for an appeal in term of months. — Sorca Clarke. [54092/23]

Chun an Aire Caiteachais Phoiblí, Seachadta ar an bPlean Forbartha Náisiúnta, agus Athchóirithe: To the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform.

*64. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform if consideration will be given to increasing pay for employees on the Public Appointment Service panel as their pay was cut in 2008 and has not been restored; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [54120/23]

*65. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform the main policy achievements of his Department in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [54079/23]

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

*66. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he can give a report on the recent WTO Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade meeting of November 2023 and matters regarding Ireland's law requiring health warnings on alcohol products on, or before, May 2026; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [53925/23]

*67. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if he is aware that the 'right to sit' regulation in existence is widely disregarded by employers in Ireland; what actions he will take to address this issue and ensure this right is provided to employees (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [54068/23]

*68. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the main policy achievements of his Department in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [54074/23]

*69. To ask the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the status of the review of the policy in relation to work permits, in particular in relation to permits for healthcare assistants and

nursing; the rights and entitlements of those permit holders; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [54087/23]

Chun an Aire Oideachais: To the Minister for Education.

*70. To ask the Minister for Education if she will consider a change to the outdated practice of age discrimination of bus drivers under contract with Bus Éireann (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [54054/23]

*71. To ask the Minister for Education the number of schools, in tabular form per school planning area, that have been notified that unspent Covid-related additional funding must be returned; the relevant deadline date for same; and the total monies to be returned per funding head. — Sorca Clarke. [53941/23]

*72. To ask the Minister for Education how Tuam, County Galway was identified to participate in the STAR programme was developed by NTRIS 2017 – 2021; how this programme is funded; when this programme is due to finish; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [53942/23]

*73. To ask the Minister for Education when the review of the HSCL programme is due to start; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [53943/23]

*74. To ask the Minister for Education if there will be any new schools added to the current DEIS scheme in summer 2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [53944/23]

*75. To ask the Minister for Education what provisions are in place for growing schools who are currently part of the DEIS scheme to access all the supports available to other schools in the DEIS programme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [53945/23]

*76. To ask the Minister for Education if she will provide an update on a bus ticket for a person (details supplied). — Peter Burke. [53958/23]

*77. To ask the Minister for Education if any discretion can be shown for a leaving certificate student in Donegal (details supplied) to have an exemption in 2024 from the orals and practical's they completed in 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [53994/23]

*78. To ask the Minister for Education her Department's emergency plans to address the shortage of school places in north Kildare, with a least 66 children currently without a school place, and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Réada Cronin. [53995/23]

*79. To ask the Minister for Education if she will commit to extending DEIS status to the entire of the recently amalgamated school (details supplied). — Cathal Crowe. [53843/23]

*80. To ask the Minister for Education further to the publication of the most recent Census figures, if she will provide information on the possible review of school place requirements in County Louth; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [54027/23]

*81. To ask the Minister for Education in relation to challenges faced by a teacher transitioning to Ireland, the steps the Government could take to help address existing barriers (details supplied). — Paul Murphy. [54057/23]

*82. To ask the Minister for Education the main policy achievements of her Department in 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [54073/23]

*83. To ask the Minister for Education the qualifications that are considered acceptable for obtaining primary school teacher status in Ireland as in the case of a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Lowry. [54090/23]

*84. To ask the Minister for Education when the tender process will conclude and a contractor appointed to a new school build project (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Charles Flanagan. [54163/23]

*85. To ask the Minister for Education further to Parliamentary Question No. 255 of 26 September 2023, the updates on the claim lodged by an organisation (details supplied) in regard to recognising incremental credit for private post primary teaching service outside the EU; the advice given by her Department to the organisation on this matter; if other relevant updates in relation to this matter will be provided; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Francis Noel Duffy. [54210/23]

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

*86. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if his Department has pursued the return to Ireland of important Irish artifacts kept in British museums (details supplied); and if his Department has questioned the legitimacy with which these or other artifacts were removed from Ireland to be placed in British museums. — Chris Andrews. [54146/23]

*87. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will provide the figures for how much funding is available in each of the years 2021, 2022 and 2023 for Fáilte Ireland's Digital that Delivers Programme. — Imelda Munster. [53961/23]

*88. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will reverse her decision in relation to the Ministerial approval of RTE's request to transfer the administration costs of the superannuation scheme from RTE (scheme sponsor) to the pension fund; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [54052/23]

*89. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media the main policy achievements of her Department in 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [54076/23]

*90. To ask the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media if she will ensure the immediate installation of the 2008 NFCD plaque at the famine sculpture (details supplied); the reason this plaque has not been installed; the earliest date for installation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [54117/23]

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

*91. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of housing commencements in Louth and Meath to date in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [53959/23]

*92. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he has received an application from Cork City Council for stage two funding regarding the redevelopment of Spring Lane, halting site in Cork; when this application was received; when he intends to agree to the funding request; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [53960/23]

*93. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage with regard to Kildare County Council's housing aid grants for older people, if he can investigate a grant application for persons (details supplied). — Patricia Ryan. [54016/23]

*94. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to respond to concerns raised by a union (details supplied) in respect of the Planning and Development Bill 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [54025/23]

*95. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the status of the new fire station in Dunleer, County Louth; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [54026/23]

*96. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the options that are available for disabled people who cannot afford adaptations and are slightly over the means test threshold, and therefore are not entitled to have it paid for; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [54030/23]

*97. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will seek a review of the closure of a service (details supplied) provided under local Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [54038/23]

*98. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if there are any restrictions on planning for housing being built beside wind turbines. — Peadar Tóibín. [54051/23]

*99. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will increase the threshold for the housing aid for older persons grant, given the current maximum grant under this scheme is €8000, with the cost of labour, materials and living increases making it inaccessible and unaffordable for many older people to bridge the gap between the awarded grant and the actual cost of the project (details supplied), and with many older people needing to refit their bathrooms on health and safety grounds to the HSE-required standard to include accessible showers, toilets and grab rails as part of their long term needs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Duncan Smith. [54096/23]

*100. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he has authorised the use of decoy crows for the purpose of protecting crops and animal feed by farmers pursuant to section 35(4) of the Wildlife Act 1976, as amended; and if not, to provide reasons that purpose has not been authorised. — Michael McNamara. [54098/23]

*101. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide a breakdown of the number of licences or permits that his Department has granted for decoy crows for the purpose of scientific research, for protecting crops and animal feed by farmers, and for other purposes approved by the Minister, respectively, for each year since 2020. — Michael McNamara. [54099/23]

*102. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans to legislate to end the practice of developers securing planning permission for housing leaving sites undeveloped for prolonged periods. — Ivana Bacik. [54122/23]

*103. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the revenue raised in 2022 by derelict sites levy payments for publicly owned land. — Ivana Bacik. [54123/23]

*104. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will report on progress to deliver affordable homes in Poolbeg west SDZ; and if he will report on his engagement with the developer and Dublin City Council in respect of same. — Ivana Bacik. [54124/23]

*105. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of local authority home loan application, approvals and drawdowns in each year from 2019 to date in 2023, in tabular form. — Ivana Bacik. [54126/23]

*106. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will report on his engagement with the Departments of Further and Higher Education, Innovation, Research and Science and Enterprise, Trade and Employment in respect of workforce planning in the construction industry to ensure the delivery of housing and other critical infrastructure. — Ivana Bacik. [54127/23]

*107. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if the final report of the External Scoping Exercise into certain matters pertaining to An Bord Pleanála by a person (details supplied) has been completed to-date; the details of any interim reports provided to-date; the timeline for the publication of the final report; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [54205/23]

*108. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the status of the review by his Department of resources for the planning sector; the status of the development of the related ministerial action plan; the timeline for the publication of the action plan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [54206/23]

*109. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the status of the development of the new rural housing guidelines; the timeline for the publication of the new guidelines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [54207/23]

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

*110. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when a decision will be made for a carer's benefit review (details supplied); if any outstanding documentation is required; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [53923/23]

*111. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason a person (details supplied) who was in receipt of jobseeker's assistance and illness benefit consistently for a total of 312 CPD over the

past year, both payments which are eligible for the Christmas bonus, has been advised that they are not eligible for the bonus; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Imelda Munster. [53966/23]

*112. To ask the Minister for Social Protection for an update on talks between her Department regarding the disparity in pay between Tus and CE supervisors; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Patrick Costello. [53967/23]

*113. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her plans, if any, to award a cost-of-living lump sum payment to disablement benefit holders similar to that awarded to those in receipt of a disability allowance, invalidity pension or blind pension payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [53997/23]

*114. To ask the Minister for Social Protection about the case of persons (details supplied) who despite both parents being in receipt of the illness benefit payment, and currently receiving half rate qualified child increases on their payments have been deemed ineligible for the €100 cost-of-living lump sum payment per child; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Maurice Quinlivan. [53999/23]

*115. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a person (details supplied) will qualify for treatment benefit scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [54000/23]

*116. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a person (details supplied) would have enough contributions to enable her to qualify for a State pension or a form of payment from her Department following recent changes and updates in this area with respect to long-term carers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [54055/23]

*117. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of appeals in progress under each social protection payment for 0 to 6 months, 6 to 12 months and 12 months plus, in tabular form; the number of appeals decisions for each payment that were accepted and declined last month, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [54189/23]

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

*118. To ask the Minister for Justice what schemes are available to Palestinians who are now Irish citizens for their families in Gaza to be evacuated to join them in Ireland; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brid Smith. [53927/23]

*119. To ask the Minister for Justice if there are plans to assist families in Gaza to be evacuated from the region to join their families already living here; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [53928/23]

*120. To ask the Minister for Justice when members of prison visiting committees will receive their travel expenses after each prison visit; the reason for the delay in making the payments; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O’Dea. [53951/23]

*121. To ask the Minister for Justice further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 120 and 122 of 22 November 2023, the average cost of effecting an EU removal/return in 2023 in accordance with EU legislation, specifying the breakdown of average costs associated with flights, accommodation, administration, and other relevant costs, in tabular form. — Pa Daly. [53979/23]

*122. To ask the Minister for Justice if the State considers those living in Northern Ireland who are eligible to Irish citizenship as enshrined in the Good Friday Agreement to be Irish from birth. — Patrick Costello. [54040/23]

*123. To ask the Minister for Justice the number of persons that failed to pay fines imposed by the courts in each of the years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023; the number that had an attachment order, a recovery order or community service order made against them as a result; the number of persons imprisoned for failure to pay such fines, by year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [54046/23]

*124. To ask the Minister for Justice the value and number of unpaid fines in each of the years 2019 to 2022 and to date in 2023; the value and number of fines imposed by the courts in each of the years; the steps being taken to recover unpaid fines; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [54047/23]

*125. To ask the Minister for Justice the offence categories in respect of which fines were imposed by the courts in each of the years 2019 to 2022 and to date in 2023; the offence categories in respect of which fines were imposed but were not paid in the same period, by the number and value in each case; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Noel Grealish. [54048/23]

*126. To ask the Minister for Justice when the visa applications for the family of a person (details supplied) are expected to be finalised; if all efforts will be made to process this visa as soon as possible; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [54053/23]

*127. To ask the Minister for Justice the progress to date in determining an application for naturalisation (details supplied); when the application will be finalised; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [54069/23]

*128. To ask the Minister for Justice the main policy achievements of her Department in 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [54080/23]

*129. To ask the Minister for Justice if she can provide an update on a visa application for a person (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Kathleen Funchion. [54083/23]

*130. To ask the Minister for Justice the status of the review taking place in relation to the income thresholds at which people can apply for family reunification; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Barry. [54088/23]

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

*131. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide the date on which a trial commenced giving academics access to the Land Commission records on a case-by-case basis; the number of academics that have requested access; and the number that have been granted access on a monthly basis since the trial began. — Catherine Murphy. [53954/23]

*132. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the way in which an academic may make a request to access the Land Commission records; if he will set out the criteria that

is required to determine that a research project is in the public interest in the context of gaining access to the Land Commission records; if he will clarify whether he and or his officials consulted with academic experts in the field of Irish social history with a specialism in land-related issues in the development of the trial access; and the way in which requests to access the records is considered. — Catherine Murphy. [53955/23]

*133. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his plans to establish on a permanent basis a procedure in place for accessing the Land Commission records for academics. — Catherine Murphy. [53956/23]

*134. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine why his farm advisory system refuses to recognise a soil science module from a Level 9 course as equivalent to a level 8 module as validated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [53996/23]

*135. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will advise on the native tree area scheme; if current approval and inspection processes mean that a farmer or forestry landowner could have a situation where they have planted on their land under the scheme which maybe later inspected by his Department and be rejected; if there is a process by which land can be inspected by his Department for approval before planting commences to avoid loss of income should it be rejected; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [54004/23]

*136. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine in relation to the decision for the Irish Horseracing Regulatory Board to give up on its own referral case three years, seven months and 13 days after it started investigating, and only a matter of days before the Referral Committee was due to hear the evidence (details supplied); if he will provide confirmation in relation to the reason for this, given the time and expense that went into the investigation; if he will ensure the investigation is carried out to completion by a third party without any bias; his views on whether the IHRB is fit for purpose; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [54005/23]

*137. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when his Department will approve applications for the farmers who have submitted TAMS applications; how much of the €370 million earmarked for TAMS funding has been given to farmers to date; how long on average are farmers waiting for approval of their applications; the longest wait for approval of a TAMS application, given that many farmers are unable to draw down funding this year for necessary on-farm investment; and what solutions are being put in place to quicken the process in order to help farmers. — Peadar Tóibín. [54086/23]

*138. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of controlled finishing units or feedlots currently registered in the State; and the beef kill numbers per month since January 2020 at EU approved slaughter plants originating in such controlled finishing units or feedlots. — Michael McNamara. [54138/23]

*139. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will provide the total beef kill numbers per month since January 2020 at EU approved slaughter plants originating in controlled finishing units or feedlots. — Michael McNamara. [54139/23]

*140. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine how many controlled finishing units or feedlots in the State are accredited under the Bord Bia sustainable beef and lamb assurance scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McNamara. [54140/23]

*141. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the reason a livestock vessel (details supplied) was permitted to leave Ireland despite inclement weather conditions. — Cathal Crowe. [54196/23]

*142. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he has been in communication with the French authorities regarding a deceased animal (details supplied). — Cathal Crowe. [54197/23]

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

*143. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the annual first and full-year cost total of expanding ECCE/AIM wages over five years from three hours to eight hours, including PRSI and USC at current ERO levels. — Kathleen Funchion. [53962/23]

*144. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to give a breakdown of the type of new ELC and SAC registrations. — Kathleen Funchion. [53963/23]

*145. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the annual first and full-year cost total to pay the wages of all childcare staff over five years, in tabular form, including PRSI and USC at current ERO levels. — Kathleen Funchion. [53964/23]

*146. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth how many speech and language therapists are currently working in each health district of Dublin city and county; how many positions are currently vacant; and how current numbers compare to each of the past ten years. — Joan Collins. [53980/23]

*147. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth how many children are currently waiting for a speech and language assessment in each health district of Dublin city and county; and how long are they waiting. — Joan Collins. [53981/23]

*148. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth how long after an assessment does a child in each health district of Dublin city and county have to wait until they start the recommended speech and language therapy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Collins. [53982/23]

*149. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the reason a child (details supplied) is waiting on an assessment of needs; if the appointment will be expedited; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [54036/23]

*150. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when appropriate supports will be provided to the son of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [54050/23]

*151. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth when crucial supports and interventions will be provided for the daughter of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [54089/23]

*152. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to respond to matters raised in correspondence regarding the wording of the proposed constitutional amendment to the definition of a family (details supplied); when an announcement will be made

in respect of the proposed wording; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [54097/23]

*153. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if he will report on progress to secure large sites for the housing of refugees, as was issued in respect of pledges of accommodation in individual residential homes; and if he will report on his engagement with the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in respect of same. — Ivana Bacik. [54125/23]

*154. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if his Department is in the process of securing the use of Inchmore House (St. Anthonys) Clara, County Offaly, for the purpose of accommodating international protection applicants of beneficiaries of temporary protection; the efforts his Department has made to engage with the surrounding local communities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [54130/23]

*155. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth if the townhouse property in Tullamore has been secured for the purpose of accommodating international protection applicants of beneficiaries of temporary protection; the efforts his Department has made to engage with the surrounding local communities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [54131/23]

*156. To ask the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth the number of children currently on the waiting list to be seen by the Children's Disability Network team in counties Carlow and Kilkenny; the length of time they have been waiting; the number of vacancies on the CDNT currently; if the recent HSE staff embargo means that these vacancies are not being advertised to be filled and/or will not be filled until the embargo is lifted; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brid Smith. [54198/23]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*157. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on the expected timelines on the establishment of a new statutory home support scheme; how he plans to scope and plan for such a scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [53920/23]

*158. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the health technology assessment on the herpes zoster vaccine which also protects against shingles; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [53921/23]

*159. To ask the Minister for Health if he plans to ensure the integration of spinal muscular atrophy screening in the heel prick test before the end of 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ged Nash. [53924/23]

*160. To ask the Minister for Health for a breakdown of the number of dentists enrolled with the dental treatment service scheme, by county, in tabular form. — Seán Crowe. [53932/23]

*161. To ask the Minister for Health the number of people currently on the waiting list for the Centre for Obesity Management; and the average waiting time to access services once a referral has been made. — Seán Crowe. [53933/23]

*162. To ask the Minister for Health if he supports the calls of representative organisations and industry for a national diabetes policy to coordinate and direct diabetes policy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [53948/23]

*163. To ask the Minister for Health the timeline for the enactment of the Health Information Bill 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Canney. [53949/23]

*164. To ask the Minister for Health the proportion (in percentage terms) of the annual health budget spent on medical technology and devices, from 2019–2023, broken down per annum, in tabular form. — Seán Canney. [53950/23]

*165. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the proposed changes (details supplied) to the qualifying criteria to become a psychotherapist put forward by CORU; if he is concerned of the impact this would have on the standard of patient care; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Steven Matthews. [53953/23]

*166. To ask the Minister for Health to consider an exemption to the HSE recruitment freeze in the case of a person (details supplied). — Sean Sherlock. [53957/23]

*167. To ask the Minister for Health with reference to the current embargo on recruitment in the HSE, if a fully qualified and experienced nurse employed by the HSE and on a full-time contract, on returning from a career break, can resume working with the HSE again; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [53965/23]

*168. To ask the Minister for Health if the current recruitment pause in place in the HSE prevents the hiring of personnel such as cooks to fill vacancies which arise due to resignations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [53984/23]

*169. To ask the Minister for Health why a person (details supplied) cannot get a primary care certificate; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [53998/23]

*170. To ask the Minister for Health the status of an appointment for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [54007/23]

*171. To ask the Minister for Health the total funding provided to each of the CHOs from 2016 to date with consideration of the highest population increase being in the CHO8 area (details supplied); if he is ensuring that the highest increased funding levels are being delivered in this catchment to meet the exponential demand; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [54009/23]

*172. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question 230 of 22 November 2023, if he will provide further details of the process by which the decision will be made to discharge/transfer elderly patients who no longer need of hospital treatment to clinically appropriate nursing homes, and what if any, input the patient concerned and their loved ones/families may have into the location of that clinically appropriate nursing home placement; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [54012/23]

*173. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide details and application criteria of the €10 million euro fund, as announced by her recently in Dáil Éireann, to enable small not-for-profit to be HIQA compliant; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [54015/23]

*174. To ask the Minister for Health if he will investigate the circumstance where an urgent MRI scan in St. James's Hospital, Dublin is now taking a minimum of six to eight weeks; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [54018/23]

*175. To ask the Minister for Health if he will investigate the fact that a person (details supplied) who was referred in August 2023 for an urgent appointment for a thyroid/ENT consultation to the Mater Hospital Dublin, has received an appointment for 21 March 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Patricia Ryan. [54019/23]

*176. To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on the actions being taken to address the staff shortages impacting paediatric neurology services at Crumlin Hospital, particularly regarding the reduced access to the neurology nurses' phone line, essential for epilepsy care in children; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [54023/23]

*177. To ask the Minister for Health to please speed up an appointment for a person (details supplied) to see a physiotherapist in Bailieborough Health centre Kells Road, Bailieborough, Cavan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [54031/23]

*178. To ask the Minister for Health for an update on a development (details supplied); the details of the proposed site; the timeline for the development; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [54037/23]

*179. To ask the Minister for Health the main policy achievements of his Department in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emer Higgins. [54075/23]

*180. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a specialised critical paramedic post (details supplied) remains unfilled in an area; what plans are in place to fill this post; the timeline for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [54084/23]

*181. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a role (details supplied) has been filled by a person without the necessary critical skills required as per the HSE Risk Management Policy and Procedures 2023; who made the decision to staff in this way; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [54085/23]

*182. To ask the Minister for Health whether the detention facilities in the Central Mental Hospital, Dundrum, will be used for any other detention purpose; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [54091/23]

*183. To ask the Minister for Health if he will intervene in a case of a person (details supplied) of a CORU application issue. — Cathal Crowe. [54093/23]

*184. To ask the Minister for Health the number of properties owned by the HSE, by location, use and value, in tabular form; and the number of these which are vacant and the length of vacancy. — Róisín Shortall. [54094/23]

*185. To ask the Minister for Health the number of properties rented by the HSE, by location, use and annual cost, in tabular form. — Róisín Shortall. [54095/23]

*186. To ask the Minister for Health if he agrees that in line with WPATH best practices, services should have full and ongoing participation from trans and gender diverse people in relation to decisions about their health and that accordingly the trans community should have

been included in the HSE workshop billed as “The Future of Transgender Care in Ireland” on 9 February 2023; if he will agree to meet with trans groups to attempt to rectify this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [54111/23]

*187. To ask the Minister for Health how many applications were made for the role of clinical lead for transgender services. — Paul Murphy. [54112/23]

*188. To ask the Minister for Health how the HSE intends to address the waiting times faced by those looking for trans healthcare; and the timeline for these actions. — Paul Murphy. [54113/23]

*189. To ask the Minister for Health if he agrees that in order to be in line with WPATH, GPs should provide blood tests to trans people, regardless of where they are sourcing their hormones. — Paul Murphy. [54114/23]

*190. To ask the Minister for Health if he agrees that instructing GPs to deny healthcare to trans people is putting their health at risk, and that the NGS should not interfere with the healthcare of people who are not their patients. — Paul Murphy. [54115/23]

*191. To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware that Ireland is reported to have the worst transgender healthcare in the EU, given this information if he is concerned that a person (details supplied) has endorsed the National Gender Services as the “gold standard for how it should be done”. — Paul Murphy. [54116/23]

*192. To ask the Minister for Health his views on the provision of South Doc services in Listowel; and his plans to change the service. — Pa Daly. [54118/23]

*193. To ask the Minister for Health if he will expedite the allocation of a fair deal bed space to a person (details supplied). — Robert Troy. [54143/23]

*194. To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 212 of 19 October 2022, if he will provide an update; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [54144/23]

*195. To ask the Minister for Health the reason a person (details supplied) who was already employed by the HSE who was on a career break will not be reinstated in their job once they return; the reason for this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Buckley. [54145/23]

*196. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the case of a person (details supplied); and when the person can expect an appointment in St. Vincent’s Hospital, Dublin. — Barry Cowen. [54162/23]

*197. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on industrial action within the HSE which has halted a significant volume of written Parliamentary Questions in his Department from having their replies issued to the asking Deputy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [54164/23]

*198. To ask the Minister for Health if funding is available for the person (details supplied). — Paul McAuliffe. [54191/23]

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

*199. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of speech and language therapy courses and places that are currently in the third-level educational system; and what plans are in place to increase the number. — Joan Collins. [53983/23]

*200. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science what efforts are made to ensure that English language students from abroad are protected from fraud in the English language education sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [54137/23]

*201. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to examine a matter in relation to a SUSI grant (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [54024/23]

*202. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to detail in tabular form the number of students from each county that have benefitted from the €1,000 reimbursement in the contribution fee for the 2023/2024 academic year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [54044/23]

*203. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to detail, in tabular form, the number of students from each county that will benefit from the Student Assistance Fund for the 2023/2024 academic year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [54045/23]

*204. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the reason bodies such as university foundations are exempt from having to prepare and submit annual statements of accounts to the Charities Regulator and are also exempt from the requirement to have their financial statements audited; the reason such foundations are not subject to statutory audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General; if he supports these exemptions remaining in place; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [54128/23]

*205. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science if he is aware of any body or agency under the aegis of his Department that is currently being funded to research pluripotent stem cells; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [54129/23]

*206. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science her plans to regulate the English language education sector; what measures are being taken to ensure that Interim List of Eligible Programmes rules that state that escrow accounts must be used for all potential students paying for courses from outside of the EU are not being circumvented; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [54136/23]

*207. To ask the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science the number of apprenticeship applications that are outstanding; the number of apprenticeship applications in the construction sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O'Callaghan. [54208/23]

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

*208. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development how much funding was given to the LEADER programme in 2022 and 2023; and how much is expected to be allocated in 2024. — Imelda Munster. [53969/23]

*209. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development how much LEADER funding has been allocated to rural tourism in 2022 and 2023. — Imelda Munster. [53970/23]

*210. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to provide an update on the progress which has been made with regard to the purchase of the old Bank of Ireland building in Dunleer to house a new library for the growing area; when she expects the works to be completed at the site; when the new library is expected to open; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [54028/23]

*211. To ask the Minister for Rural and Community Development to provide an update on works (details supplied), and the proposed opening of a temporary service; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [54039/23]

**CEISTEANNA, SEACHAS CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH, I
gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL DÉARDAOIN, 7 NOLLAIG, 2023
QUESTIONS, OTHER THAN QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY, FOR ORAL
ANSWER ON THURSDAY, 7 DECEMBER, 2023**

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

1. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his proposals for improved consistency and alignment throughout all tiers of planning; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O'Callaghan. [53916/23]

2. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the number of housing commencements and completions in Carlow to date in 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O'Connor. [53847/23]

3. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to publish his Department's AEV and REV for 2023, including all of the individual spending programmes under each subhead, the AEV for 2024 including all of the individual spending programmes under each subhead and to give a commitment to publish the REV for 2024 when it is complete including all of the individual spending programmes under each subhead. — Eoin Ó Broin. [54147/23]

4. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage what role will a person (details supplied) play in Uisce Éireann's capital investment plan. — Brian Stanley. [53991/23]

5. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to report on the sharp increase in family homelessness, and what measures he intends to take to ensure that this trend is reversed as a matter of urgency; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [54220/23]

6. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide an update on the work of the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [54063/23]

7. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the steps his Department are taking to insure affordable housing is provided in counties Cavan and Monaghan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [53596/23]

8. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the measures that will be implemented at an early date to progress the proposal to extend the Shannon navigation from Lough Allen, County Leitrim to Dowra, County Cavan in view of the substantial preparatory work carried out on the project some years ago and the benefits of such a development for the upper Shannon region; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [53977/23]

9. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the review into the differential rent scheme for local authority housing support will conclude; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [54166/23]

10. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will comment on a report (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [54167/23]

11. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will activate the cities fund to ensure that more of the affordable homes developed in cities, particularly by the LDA, can be offered for affordable purchase, and make it easier for potential eligible buyers of such homes to establish that there are sufficient buyers with the necessary access to funds to avoid any uncertainty about take-up. — Richard Bruton. [54192/23]

12. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta cur síos a dhéanamh ar an ról atá, má tá, ag a Roinn in ullmhúcháin do threoirínte maidir le cúrsaí pleanála sa Ghaeltacht; chun a fhiafraí dó ar labhair sé féin nó Rannóg na Gaeltachta le haon eagrais Ghaeilge nó Ghaeltachta maidir leo. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [53895/23]

13. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide an update on engagements he has had with the engineering sector with respect to certification of specific options under the defective concrete block scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [54174/23]

14. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta cén uair a fhoilseofar na treoirínte pleanála don Ghaeltacht; an mbeidh forálacha speisialta do na hoileáin Ghaeltachta sna treoirínte seo; agus an ndéanfaidh sé ráiteas ina thaobh. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [54175/23]

15. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to report on the progress of the cost rental delivery; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [54223/23]

16. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage why the regeneration of a local authority housing complex in Dolphin House in Dublin 8 has been dogged and continually frustrated by bureaucratic delays; and when is it now expected to proceed to other

phases of the work considering that Phase 1 was completed over five years ago. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [53936/23]

17. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage what additional supports his Department provided to Cork City Council and Cork County Council following the floods caused by Storm Babet; if he is satisfied that the local authorities have the necessary resources available to them during such adverse weather events; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [53975/23]

18. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the delivery of housing on public owned sites in Dublin 9 and Dublin 11. — Paul McAuliffe. [54216/23]

19. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will bring in a ban on no-fault evictions during winter months given that homeless services in Galway are currently overwhelmed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [54109/23]

20. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will outline the changes that took place to the tenant purchase scheme in recent months; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [53597/23]

21. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the funding available for the Energy Efficiency Social Housing Retrofit Programme in 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [53935/23]

22. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the extent to which he can avail of modern housing production methods to facilitate the provision of supply of homes to the market in addition to those already in hand in order to address the ever increasing demand arising from the termination of tenancies or other factors which might make it difficult or even impossible for families to provide housing by other means such as purchase or rental through the local authorities; if he can identify those counties currently trying to face this challenge with a view to increasing the supply within months rather than years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [54106/23]

23. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to advise what affordable housing schemes are planned for counties Roscommon and Galway; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [53470/23]

24. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans for the restructuring and resourcing of An Bord Pleanála; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jim O’Callaghan. [53917/23]

25. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he would introduce a weighted system into the scheme of letting priorities for allocations of local authority homes; if as part of this system there could be bonus points for people who work; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [54203/23]

26. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage To ask the Minister for Housing for an update on the number of successful applications for the First Home Scheme, and a breakdown on a county-by-county basis. — Paul McAuliffe. [54215/23]

27. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of applications received under the vacant homes scheme in each county to date; the number approved and the number where the grant has been paid; the total cost of the scheme to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [54176/23]

28. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the key targets for 2024 under Housing for All; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [53974/23]

29. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will publish written confirmation from the Banking and Payments Federation that homes remediated or rebuilt under the enhanced defective concrete block grant scheme will be mortgageable or re-mortgageable once completed. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [54172/23]

30. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the current status of the Implementation Steering Group with respect to the defective concrete block scheme; why stakeholders, including affected homeowners, the banking industry, insurance industry, engineering sector and others are not included to resolve key outstanding issues; if a commitment was ever made by the Minister or his Department to establish such an oversight group with the aforementioned stakeholders, and if so, when; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [54204/23]

31. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the measures he is taking to increase certainty across the planning system through the introduction of statutory timelines for decision making; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [53976/23]

32. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if his attention has been drawn to the Residential Tenancies Board Rent Index Report Q2 2023, which showed that Galway City had the largest annual increase in average rents for new tenancies in any city in Ireland at 12.7%; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [54201/23]

33. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide an update on the report reviewing housing adaptation grants for older people and people with a disability; to provide a date by which we can expect said report to be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [54103/23]

34. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will consider emergency housing measures to increase the supply of housing to those counties particularly affected by the threat of homelessness; the steps he will take to address these ever increasing housing needs in order to ensure that homelessness does not become an endemic and that families including parents and children have an option to avail of in the event of finding themselves homeless arising from eviction, or through the ongoing increasing demand; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [54105/23]

35. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage whether private sector investors will be used to finance Uisce Éireann's capital investment plan; if these will be PPP's or shareholders in Uisce Éireann; and why his Department is not fully financing Uisce Éireann's capital plan. — Brian Stanley. [53992/23]

36. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he has any information on how many first-time buyers have purchased homes to date in 2023; how this compares to 2021 and 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [53938/23]

37. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his target for assistance to restore properties through the vacant property refurbishment grant; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O’Dea. [53879/23]

38. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide details of all approved housing projects for both Cork City Council and Cork County Council from 1 January 2020 to today’s date; the number that have now been fully completed and are occupied; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [53372/23]

39. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if consideration will be given to extending the timeline for completing works under croí cónaithe scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [54187/23]

40. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will increase the HAP limits in line with rents; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [54222/23]

41. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his views on whether it is equitable that additional measures approved under Housing for All to incentivise the activation of increased housing supply and help reduce housing construction costs does not include people in rural Ireland on group water schemes as it only refunds Uisce Éireann water and wastewater standard connection charges; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [54169/23]

42. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the current status of the Implementation Steering Group with respect to the defective concrete block scheme; if he will establish an oversight group including key stakeholders, including affected homeowners, the banking industry, insurance industry, engineering sector and others in order to resolve key outstanding issues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Rose Conway-Walsh. [54173/23]

43. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the multi-annual rural water programme 2024 – 2026; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [54058/23]

44. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is aware of delays with Residential Tenancies Board issuing confirmation letters to tenants on notice of terminations submitted to them by landlords; the delays without receipt of confirmation for tenants to get their notice of termination validated by Threshold; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [54188/23]

45. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when Ireland’s new National Biodiversity Action Plan will be launched; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Christopher O’Sullivan. [54213/23]

46. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the details of the increase in septic tank grants; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [53930/23]

47. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the funding available to support the delivery of social homes in 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [53934/23]

48. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to outline his plans to reduce rising rents in counties Roscommon and Galway; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [53471/23]

49. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the action he will take to ensure local authorities increase the number of Traveller accommodation units; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [53988/23]

50. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on the provision of both social and affordable housing in Carlow; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jennifer Murnane O’Connor. [53848/23]

51. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to advise when data from each local authority in relation to the properties entering the vacant homes action plan programme and outcomes will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Colm Burke. [53373/23]

52. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide an update on the work of Land Development Agency; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [54062/23]

53. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on developments under the croí cónaithe cities scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [53854/23]

54. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he is aware of the significant increase in average rent in County Donegal, according to the ESRI and the Residential Tenancies Board new renters in County Donegal are paying almost 30% more each month than existing tenants; if the Government have any plans to deal with this significant increase; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [54082/23]

55. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to outline why defective concrete block homeowners in counties Donegal, Mayo, Clare and Limerick have been offered support through another limited grant scheme rather than an actual redress scheme similar to the pyrite remediation scheme. — Pádraig Mac Lochlainn. [54171/23]

56. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for an update on plans to include Broadford and Cooraclare, County Clare in a pilot sewerage scheme for unsewered villages. — Cathal Crowe. [53846/23]

57. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans to extend access to local authority home loans to tackle long-term vacancy and dereliction; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O’Dea. [53880/23]

58. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to outline his plans to develop housing on State owned lands in line with the principles of the transit-oriented development in Limerick metropolitan area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [54133/23]

59. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans to develop housing policy with appropriate density and zoning, such that it supports the development of district heating networks and rail transport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian Leddin. [54134/23]

60. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage what consultation or discussions he has had with stakeholders in relation to the help-to-buy scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cormac Devlin. [53973/23]

61. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his plans to commence parts 4 and 5 of the Electoral Reform Act 2022; the barriers in doing so to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [53336/23]

62. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to what extent is the use of modern methods of construction used in the provision of housing under the Government's Housing for All Programme; how many of these have been delivered; what is the future direction of the Department in relation to this; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [54059/23]

63. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the progress being made under the Rural Water Programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [53972/23]

64. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide in tabular form a list of all completed cost rental housing schemes delivered to date by the Land Development Agency and Approved Housing Bodies including the name of each development; the local authority in which each scheme is located; the number of units in each scheme including a unit bedroom number breakdown; and the monthly rent charged for each unit by size in each scheme. — Eoin Ó Broin. [54151/23]

65. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his proposals for strategic ten-year development plans for local authorities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [53931/23]

66. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the steps he is taking to ensure that the water from private wells is of a safe standard, given that since Uisce Éireann was established, homeowners with private wells have to pay a private lab service for testing of their drinking water, a service which previously was available free through the local authority; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [53411/23]

67. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the number of houses currently under construction by each local authority in the State; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [53692/23]

68. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will outline details of the Voids Programme for 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [54190/23]

69. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage what actions he plans to take to constrain the exorbitant rise in private rental prices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [54168/23]

70. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when emergency funding for interim fire safety and other measures for homeowners and OMCs with celtic tiger era building defects will be made available. — Eoin Ó Broin. [54149/23]

71. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage how many new homes have been completed so far this year; how many new homes have seen construction start; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [53855/23]

72. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he will outline the proposals which he plans to table for consideration by the citizens of Dublin of future governance for the city. — Richard Bruton. [54193/23]

73. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to outline when he intends to bring forward the promised “first refusal” legislation with regard to the tenant-in-situ scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [54219/23]

74. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the action he has taken to ensure that more households qualify for the septic tank grants and are supported to upgrade or replace their tank; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Moynihan. [53971/23]

75. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage what immediate and urgent actions will be taken to reverse the month on month increases in homelessness; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cian O’Callaghan. [53987/23]

76. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage what measures he is going to put in place to address those families and individuals in homeless services who are above the income limits for social housing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [54221/23]

77. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to outline what recent engagements his Department has had with the Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform regarding income thresholds and grant limits for housing adaptations for older people and people with a disability. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [54104/23]

78. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the amount of money paid out under the vacant property refurbishment grant in each month since it was established; if he will provide detail in relation to the qualification criteria for the grant, the amount of applications received for the grant and the amount of grants approved, in tabular form.; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [53693/23]

79. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when he intends to bring forward legislation to give effect to the planning recommendations of the Expert Group on Traveller Accommodation published in 2019. — Eoin Ó Broin. [54148/23]

80. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the timeline for the publication of the draft planning guidelines for Gaeltacht areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [54200/23]

81. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage his assessment of the impact of affordable purchase initiatives on increasing home ownership; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [53937/23]

82. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide in tabular form a list of all completed housing schemes funded via the Affordable Housing Fund including the name of each scheme; the local authority area in which the scheme is located; the number of units in each scheme including a unit bedroom number breakdown; the purchase price of each unit by size in each scheme; and the cost of the State's equity share for each unit by size in each scheme. — Eoin Ó Broin. [54150/23]

83. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to provide an update in relation to the provision of affordable housing in Galway; when affordable housing will be available for purchase in Galway, and when people will be able to register their interest for it; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mairéad Farrell. [54110/23]

84. To ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage if he can outline what measures his Department will be putting in place with Uisce Éireann to reduce the levels of raw sewage entering into local waterways across the Sligo and Leitrim area. — Martin Kenny. [54234/23]

85. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the steps which she is taking to increase employment participation levels among those in receipt of one parent family payments from her Department; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [53876/23]

86. To ask the Minister for Social Protection for an update on the pension entitlements being worked on for carers by her Department; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O'Sullivan. [54071/23]

87. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the extent to which she might consider a partial State pension commensurate with their contributions or with a slight enhancement to those who currently have contributions but not sufficient to warrant payment of pension and who may not qualify otherwise; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [54107/23]

88. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to report on the progress made regarding benchmarking the State pension at 34% above average earnings, considering the Budget 2024 increase in State pensions has not matched the spending power of State pensions from 2020. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [54102/23]

89. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will ensure measures are taken to align the pay of Tús supervisors with CE supervisors; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [54156/23]

90. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will take into account the negative reaction of people with disabilities to the Green Paper on Disability Reform in devising further policy in the area; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [54228/23]

91. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of applications received by the Department in each of the last five years for domiciliary care allowance; the number rejected each year; the reason for these rejections; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [54178/23]

92. To ask the Minister for Social Protection why an approved carer's allowance applicants are waiting weeks to receive their first payment; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [53472/23]

93. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will consider raising employers PRSI to the EU average. — Joan Collins. [51736/23]

94. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to confirm that benchmarking of the State pension will be included in Budget 2025 as per the Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020-2025 (details supplied). — Joan Collins. [53990/23]

95. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide an update on the SCOPE investigation into RTÉ; how many cases have concluded; and what the verdicts were. — Brian Stanley. [54002/23]

96. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if it is her intention to reduce payment rates for recipients of social welfare engaged in criminal behaviour; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [54157/23]

97. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if her Department will look at extending the Households Benefits Package and the Living Alone Allowance to single parent families; if her Department can provide a costing for this measure; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [53939/23]

98. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her Department's plans for a public awareness campaign to alert long-term carers to changes in their pension provisions under the provision of Social Welfare; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [52958/23]

99. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will review the fact that, standard disregards for maintenance that apply in the means testing of other payments, do not apply in the means testing of the Guardians payment non-contributory. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [54244/23]

100. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if a 'cost-of-disability' payment will be introduced in Budget 2025 (details supplied). — Joan Collins. [53989/23]

101. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when details on the carer's pension will be available; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [54185/23]

102. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if provision will be made to have child benefit paid in respect of students in full-time education who reach the age of 18 during the current school year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [54211/23]

103. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide details of her plans following the public consultation stage on document (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Violet-Anne Wynne. [54165/23]

104. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide details on her Department's efforts to reform jobseeker's allowance; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [54064/23]

105. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of plans to close the pay gap between Tús supervisors and CE supervisors; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [54184/23]

106. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if there are any measures under consideration by her Department to reduce poverty levels among those with disabilities that were not announced in the Budget. — Gary Gannon. [54180/23]

107. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide an update on the tender for EmployAbility which was due to be published in April 2023; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [54242/23]

108. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will outline the specifics regarding the pension entitlements being worked on for carers by her Department presently if she will outline the specifics regarding the pension entitlements being worked on for carers by her Department presently; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [53598/23]

109. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will consider opening a scheme in the near future for those who are missing PRSI contributions to receive a State pension; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [54061/23]

110. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if her Department has been contact with the OPW in relation to the loss of car parking facilities by Social Protection staff in Cavan town; if alternative facilities are being considered; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [54159/23]

111. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason there was no co-production and co-design involved between her Department and disabled persons representative organisations and disability organisations in relation to the production of the Green Paper on Disability Reform and the subsequent consultation process; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pauline Tully. [54158/23]

112. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress in relation to the implementation of the pilot scheme to support people experiencing food poverty based on a case work model, as funded by her Department; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Marc Ó Cathasaigh. [49682/23]

113. To ask the Minister for Social Protection about the free travel scheme and the introduction of booking fees of between €2-€10 by private transport companies for some passengers who avail of the scheme; if she plans to tackle this to ensure that public transport remains free for those who are eligible for the free travel scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [53906/23]

114. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if there are any measures under consideration by her Department to reduce poverty levels in single parent families that were not announced in the Budget. — Gary Gannon. [54181/23]

115. To ask the Minister for Social Protection how many people availed of the Activation and Family Support Programme in 2022 to fund the cost of training supports and education courses for people on social welfare; how this compares to 2020 and 2021, respectively; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [53940/23]

116. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to indicate whether consideration might be given to an easier system of transfer to disability allowance or other form of payment to those applicants who heretofore already qualified for domiciliary care allowance and who have no contributions to facilitate an ongoing payment on reaching the end of their DCA entitlement; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [54108/23]

117. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if measures will be introduced to assist applicants that have domiciliary care applications progressed where there are delays outside the control of parents in having necessary assessments carried out for children; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [54212/23]

118. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she believes the level of social welfare payments is adequate to prevent child poverty; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [54226/23]

119. To ask the Minister for Social Protection when legislation to remove child maintenance as household means for lone parent payments will be introduced; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Claire Kerrane. [53473/23]

120. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the steps which she is taking to increase part-time employment participation levels among those in receipt of jobseeker's payments from her Department; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [53877/23]

121. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if there are plans to make provision for pension contributions for foster carers where they are unable to take-up other employment due to their role as a foster carer. — Paul McAuliffe. [54218/23]

122. To ask the Minister for Social Protection what work is being done to reduce the processing time for disability allowance applications which have increased by two weeks since December 2022; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairí Ó Murchú. [54101/23]

123. To ask the Minister for Social Protection about the recent increase in scam text messages and phone calls concerning the lump sum payments from her Department; what the Department is doing to combat these; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [54066/23]

124. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to confirm that core social welfare rates will be raised to at least the rate of inflation since 2013 when once-off cost-of-living payments end, so that core social welfare rates have not been cut in real terms since 2013 (details supplied). — Joan Collins. [53993/23]

125. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will review the “working week” for working age payments; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [53875/23]

126. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of applications received for the humanitarian assistance scheme after flooding in Cork City and Cork County in October 2023; the number of applications processed and approved; the number of applications outstanding; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pádraig O’Sullivan. [54070/23]

127. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the progress made with the report on means testing in the social welfare system; when it is hoped it will be published; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [54177/23]

128. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if there are any measures under consideration by her Department to reduce child poverty that were not announced in the Budget. — Gary Gannon. [54179/23]

129. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she has considered the scope of a partnership with a body like An Post to continue the sort of well-being support offered to people at risk of isolation, which was so successful during Covid, becoming a permanent feature in our communities. — Richard Bruton. [54195/23]

130. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the measures that are being taken to reduce the current processing times by the appeals department; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Aindrias Moynihan. [54186/23]

131. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will increase all social welfare payments over the poverty line to ensure no one is living in poverty; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [54225/23]

132. To ask the Minister for Social Protection for an update on the progress on the auto-enrolment pensions scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Dillon. [54060/23]

133. To ask the Minister for Social Protection about the recent changes to the Reasonable Accommodation Fund and the Disability Awareness Support Scheme and what these will comprise; if these changes will result in the creation of a new fund or scheme; if there were considerations given to allow funding to follow the person instead of being granted to the business; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Cathal Crowe. [54067/23]

134. To ask the Minister for Social Protection how many complaints her Department has received this year regarding social welfare inspections. — Gary Gannon. [54182/23]

135. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she thinks it is acceptable that the SCOPE investigation will take fifteen years to complete; and what steps she is taking to speed it up. — Brian Stanley. [54003/23]

136. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of persons in receipt of the fuel allowance in each of the past ten years, 2023 inclusive. — Peadar Tóibín. [53694/23]

137. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she has considered the development of programmes to support people approaching retirement to better prepare for the substantial changes which need to be managed. — Richard Bruton. [54194/23]

138. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide an update on the long-term carers contribution scheme; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Alan Farrell. [54065/23]

139. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her plans to extend the public consultation deadline on the Green Paper on disability reform; the number of submissions received to-date; the expected timeline for the consideration of all submissions; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [54183/23]

140. To ask the Minister for Social Protection To ask the Minister for Social Protection for an update on the number of successful applicants for fuel allowance in 2023, and how this compares to the previous five years. — Paul McAuliffe. [54217/23]

141. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if her Department has looked into providing a statutory bereavement leave and the costs associated with this; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O’Dea. [53905/23]

142. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of persons in receipt of the disability allowance in each of the past ten years, 2023 inclusive. — Peadar Tóibín. [53695/23]

143. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she has given consideration to a submission from Family Carers Ireland on the introduction of a non-means-tested participation income for family carers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [53878/23]

144. To ask the Minister for Social Protection to provide an update on the proposed legislation on child maintenance system changes; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [54241/23]

145. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will review the Guardians payment, specifically where a relative is approved for child benefit, that this would then lead to the automatic signposting to the Guardians payment for the relative. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [54240/23]

146. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will provide an update on the consultation of the ‘working age payment’ model mentioned in the Green Paper on Disability Reform.; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire. [54243/23]

147. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will ensure that the cost of disability is taken into account in setting the level of social welfare payments; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [54227/23]

148. To ask the Minister for Social Protection her reasons for not supporting proposal a union (details supplied) for pay-related jobseeker’s benefit to be paid at a maximum of 70 per cent of salary or €550 for nine months; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Murphy. [54224/23]