



DÁIL ÉIREANN

Dé Céadaoin, 17 Bealtaine, 2017

Wednesday, 17th May, 2017

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 Health last met; and when it is next due to meet. — Micheál Martin. [23026/17]
2. To ask the Taoiseach when the next meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Health will be held. — Mick Barry. [23041/17]
3. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Health last met; and when it next plans to meet. — Brendan Howlin. [23047/17]
4. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Arts, Irish and the Gaeltacht last met; and when it is scheduled to meet again. — Gerry Adams. [22964/17]
5. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Arts, Irish and the Gaeltacht is next meeting. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [23042/17]
6. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Arts, Irish and the Gaeltacht last met. — Brendan Howlin. [23048/17]
7. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the recently published progress report on the programme for a partnership government. — Gerry Adams. [22966/17]
8. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the progress report of the partnership for government. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [23043/17]
9. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the publication of the progress report on the programme for a partnership government. — Brendan Howlin. [23049/17]
10. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the first annual report on the implementation of the programme for a partnership government. — Micheál Martin. [23332/17]
11. To ask the Taoiseach when the next meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Action will take place. — Joan Burton. [23019/17]
12. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Action last met; and when it will meet again. — Brendan Howlin. [23088/17]
13. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Action last met; and when it will meet again. — Gerry Adams. [23089/17]

14. To ask the Taoiseach the number of times the Cabinet Committee on Brexit has met since June 2016. — Joan Burton. [23018/17]

15. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Brexit last met; and his plans to publish a paper on economic and trade issues related to Brexit. — Brendan Howlin. [23087/17]

16. To ask the Taoiseach the number of times the Cabinet Committee on Brexit has met since January 2017. — Gerry Adams. [23090/17]

17. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the National Economic and Social Council and the work programme underway. — Brendan Howlin. [23086/17]

18. To ask the Taoiseach when the intended reforms of the National Economic and Social Council will become effective. — Gerry Adams. [23091/17]

19. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his visit to Canada on 3 May 2017. — Joan Burton. [21949/17]

20. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting with the Prime Minister of Canada, Mr Justin Trudeau, on 3 May 2017. — Gerry Adams. [21953/17]

21. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting with the Canadian Prime Minister and events on his trip to Canada. — Brendan Howlin. [22089/17]

22. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his visit to Canada and his meeting with the Canadian Prime Minister; if CETA was discussed; and the other meetings that he attended and the issues that were discussed. — Micheál Martin. [22095/17]

23. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent trip to Canada and any discussions that took place regarding CETA. — Eamon Ryan. [22107/17]

24. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting with Mr Justin Trudeau, the Prime Minister of Canada. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [23044/17]

25. To ask the Taoiseach his plans to appoint new special advisers generally or in the area of economics or Brexit. — Brendan Howlin. [22090/17]

26. To ask the Taoiseach the position regarding the group being formed to reform Seanad Éireann as agreed in 2016. — Micheál Martin. [22098/17]

27. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting with Mr Michel Barnier on 11 May 2017; the issues discussed relating to Brexit; and the other matters that were discussed and the responses he received. — Micheál Martin. [23021/17]

28. To ask the Taoiseach the actions being taken to improve Dublin inner city; and if he has attended the forum meeting recently. — Seán Haughey. [23280/17]

29. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Economy, Trade and Jobs last met. — Micheál Martin. [23333/17]

30. To ask the Taoiseach when the last meeting of the National Security Committee took place; the current members of the committee; the number of times the committee meets each year; the role of the committee; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Wallace. [23329/17]

CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY

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

31. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence his department's assessment of the report of the public sector pay commission; the implications for the Defence Forces; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Lisa Chambers. [23565/17]

32. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if a decision was taken in 2016 to prioritise the ministerial air transport service over the provision of top cover for search and rescue missions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [23355/17]

33. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the action his department took when the General Officer Commanding the Air Corps outlined serious concerns regarding the extreme pressure personnel losses had placed on operating units in the Air Corps; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Lisa Chambers. [23566/17]

34. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the severance arrangements that have been introduced for enlisted personnel that have joined the Permanent Defence Forces since 1994 and that retire or are discharged in circumstances as identified by the Commission on Public Service Pensions 2000; and the steps he will take to ensure an improvement in pay and conditions for members of the Defence Forces many of whom are currently living close to the poverty line. — Noel Grealish. [23530/17]

35. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence his plans for the development of naval capabilities including increasing the role of the Naval Service in fisheries protection and monitoring of Irish waters after Brexit. — Eamon Ryan. [23587/17]

CEISTEANNA EILE OTHER QUESTIONS

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

36. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the details of the submission made to the Public Service Pay Commission by his department and the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform that states the Defence Forces are currently experiencing a significant exit of trained and experienced personnel due to the improving economy and the increased opportunities available to further develop their careers; the way in which this is impacting on recruiting specialised personnel; and his plans to address the severe pay issues for low and middle ranking members of the Defence Forces through a change of policy that would end the practice of enlisted personnel receiving an annual gross income of less than €24,518 per year. — David Cullinane. [23199/17]

37. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence his plans to provide additional resources in 2017 for the Air Corps; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [23267/17]

38. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the position regarding the relocation of Westmeath Civil Defence HQ further to his officials meeting with members of Westmeath county council; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Burke. [23085/17]

39. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if he has had discussions at EU level with a view to delivering better value for money when purchasing new equipment platforms for the Defence Forces; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [23326/17]

40. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if the medical service of the Defence Forces is continuing to prescribe the anti malarial drug lariam for members of the Defence Forces; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [23306/17]

41. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the position regarding measures being taken to facilitate a return to service of former members of the Defence Forces; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peter Burke. [23084/17]

42. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the position regarding plans for a peace and leadership institute on the Curragh; the next steps in the plans; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Heydon. [23328/17]

43. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if his department will ensure that essential works that are required in the schools located in the Curragh Camp will be carried out; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [23258/17]

44. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if sailors in the Naval Service that served on migrant rescue operations in the Mediterranean Sea received the extra payments agreed in November 2016; the reason for the delay in payment; the steps he will take to ensure that future such payments will not be delayed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [23265/17]

45. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the nature, scale, scope and subject matter of the discussions he has had with the UN Under Secretary General and head of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations recently; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [23324/17]

46. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence his plans to recruit new members to the Reserve Defence Forces in 2017; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Smith. [23268/17]

47. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence when he expects Permanent Defence Force numbers to reach the current agreed ceiling of 9,500; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Lisa Chambers. [23264/17]

48. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence his plans to review procurement procedures in the Defence Forces; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Lisa Chambers. [23261/17]

49. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence his plans to deploy the Naval Service on a humanitarian mission in the Mediterranean; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul Phelan. [23092/17]

50. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the support the Air Corps has been able to provide when assisting emergency services dealing with serious gorse and forest fires; the type of equipment available to the Air Corps when attempting to extinguish such fires; and his plans to upgrade or modify its existing air fleet in order that it is better equipped to assist in tackling out of control fires in view of the damage caused by gorse and forest fires in recent weeks. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [23195/17]

51. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence his views on Ireland increasing its purchasing of military hardware from Israel; his further views on whether these purchases are ethical in view of recent conflict in the region; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Maureen O'Sullivan. [23083/17]

52. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence when the projected number of personnel will be based in Custume barracks, Athlone in view of the fact that on the announcement of the Defence Forces reorganisation in 2012, the projected permanent Defence Forces strength for the barracks was 971 personnel. — Robert Troy. [23323/17]

53. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if he will be attending the EU FAC/Defence meeting taking place on 18 May 2017; the items on the agenda for discussion at the meeting; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Tony McLoughlin. [23082/17]

54. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the numbers of members of the Defence Forces that must rely or relied on family income supplement to survive in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [23266/17]

55. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if he attended the recent informal meeting of EU defence ministers; if so, the matters discussed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Tony McLoughlin. [23081/17]

56. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if the reduction of Army field engineer companies from three to two arising from the 2012 Defence Forces reorganisation has decreased the capacity of the Defence Forces to aid to the civil authorities in areas such as forest and gorse fires, maintenance of essential national services and national disasters in times of emergency; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Lisa Chambers. [23260/17]

57. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if he has given consideration to Defence Forces participation in EU efforts to counteract illegal person trafficking and to disrupt the business model of criminal elements involved in such activities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Paul Phelan. [23093/17]

58. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if his department has been contacted by a group (details supplied) seeking to use Mullingar barracks as temporary accommodation to house homeless veterans; his views on these requests; his further views on using Mullingar barracks for such purposes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [23193/17]

59. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if he has received and read a recent protected disclosure into serious breaches of health and safety procedures at Casement Aerodrome including claims that personnel have died prematurely as a result of handling hazardous chemicals without adequate protection from retired Air Corps personnel that worked on the base; and his plans to deal with these latest revelations. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [23196/17]

60. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the value of contracts for equipment, goods or services procured from Israeli based firms and companies over the past five years by the Defence Forces; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [23277/17]

61. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence his plans for Columb barracks, Mullingar. — Robert Troy. [23325/17]

62. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the amount spent on drones and other equipment procured from Israel since 2013; his future plans in relation to procuring equipment from Israel; and his views on whether in view of Israel's appalling human rights record it is unethical and against the wishes of the vast majority of persons that Ireland continues trading with Israel. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [23197/17]

63. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the reason for an estimated one in ten members of the Defence Forces being in receipt of less than a living wage of €24,518 per annum; his views on the claims by military families that poor wages are a significant factor which has resulted in spiralling levels of debt and hardship for Defence Forces personnel; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Cullinane. [23198/17]

64. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence when the LÉ Eithne is due to depart to the Mediterranean; if there have been delays with regard to its dispatch; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Lisa Chambers. [23262/17]

65. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if his department investigated claims that students from the University of Limerick were exposed to hazardous chemicals and organic solvents during the course of their work placement at Casement Aerodrome; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [23305/17]

66. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the progress that has been made in negotiations with overholders in accommodation in the Curragh camp; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [23259/17]

67. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence his plans to address the endemic low pay among personnel in the Defence Forces; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [23276/17]

68. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the position regarding the work of the Curragh forum; when it last met and is next due to meet; if progress has been made on agreeing a work programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Heydon. [23327/17]

69. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the additional initiatives the Defence Forces are taking in the wake of international terror attacks over the past eighteen months; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Lisa Chambers. [23263/17]

70. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence his plans to redeploy personnel to the border region should a hard border be reintroduced in view of Brexit; if his department held discussions on this aspect; if his department assessed the number of officers needed in areas of counties Cavan and Monaghan to man the border if that were to happen; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [23304/17]

71. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the position regarding the recent purchase of drones to the value of €1.9 million from Israel by the Defence Forces; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Clare Daly. [23969/17]

72. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the status of the implementation of the Air Corp's improvement plan for health and safety at the Air Corps premises at Casement Aerodrome, Baldonnell, in view of the fact that 7 out of 8 of the phases of the plan were to be implemented by May 2017. — Clare Daly. [23970/17]

73. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if the Defence Forces performed aid to civil power duties at Shannon Airport on 25 April 2017; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Clare Daly. [23971/17]

74. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence further to parliamentary question number 1459 of 2 May 2017, the current position regarding the prescribing of lariam to the Defence Forces; the reason there is no plan at this time to withdraw lariam from the range of anti malarial medications available to the Defence Forces; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Clare Daly. [23972/17]

75. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence his plans to improve the pay, conditions and contracts of Defence Forces members following on from his meeting with a group (details supplied) in May 2017; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Clare Daly. [23973/17]

CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Chun an Taoisigh: To the Taoiseach.

*76. To ask the Taoiseach if he met Prince Charles when he was visiting here. — Micheál Martin. [23334/17]

*77. To ask the Taoiseach when the next EU Council meeting will take place. — Micheál Martin. [23335/17]

*78. To ask the Taoiseach the amount spent by his department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form. — Barry Cowen. [23457/17]

*79. To ask the Taoiseach the amount spent by bodies and agencies under the aegis of his department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form. — Barry Cowen. [23473/17]

*80. To ask the Taoiseach if work has commenced on the paper on the economic challenges of Brexit as referenced in the programme for government annual report 2017; the specific topics that will be covered in this paper; and the expected publication date of this paper. — Stephen S. Donnelly. [23563/17]

*81. To ask the Taoiseach the number of persons that are employed under the aegis of his department through agencies. — Ruth Coppinger. [23937/17]

*82. To ask the Taoiseach the persons employed through agencies in his department, in tabular form. — Ruth Coppinger. [23949/17]

*83. To ask the Taoiseach the monetary value of all work contracted out under the aegis of his department to external agencies or consultancy for work completed or investigations undertaken in human resources and industrial relations including hiring and interviewing of staff and so on. — Bríd Smith. [23962/17]

Chun an Tánaiste agus Aire Dlí agus Cirt agus Comhionannais: To the Tánaiste and Minister for Justice and Equality.

*84. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Justice and Equality if her attention has been drawn to specific businesses that place or recruit workers that have autism; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [23371/17]

*85. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Justice and Equality the number of ministerial permissions her department has given to members of An Garda Síochána to open bank accounts for official purposes in the past 20 years, in tabular form; the reason for the account opening and the year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [23368/17]

*86. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Justice and Equality further to parliamentary question number 40 of 15 November 2016, the number of those summonses not served in 2015 and 2016 that were reissued; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [23380/17]

*87. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Justice and Equality further to parliamentary question number 40 of 15 November 2016 in which she stated that a summons struck out not served can be reissued at the request of An Garda Síochána, if she will clarify same; if this is normal practice; the policies in place to enable a Garda to decide whether or not to have a summons reissued; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [23381/17]

*88. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Justice and Equality further to parliamentary question number 16 of 30 March 2017, the number of new staff hires that are engaged in the provision of services in the area of international protection; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [23382/17]

*89. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Justice and Equality further to parliamentary question number 16 of 30 March 2017, the position or title of each of the new 15 staff; the date that each of the new staff members' contracts began; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [23383/17]

*90. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Justice and Equality further to parliamentary question number 16 of 30 March 2017, if she has conducted her own enquiries and has satisfied herself that the extra funding given to the Legal Aid Board in December 2016 for international protection clients was used solely for positions relating to international protection staff commencing after the funds were provided and was used for new and additional positions and not for the replacement of pre existing positions; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [23384/17]

*91. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Justice and Equality further to parliamentary question number 16 of 30 March 2017, the oversight or auditing in place to ensure that funds provided to the

Legal Aid Board for services to international protection applicants is ringfenced and used only for that purpose; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [23385/17]

*92. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Justice and Equality the amount spent by her department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23454/17]

*93. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Justice and Equality the amount spent by bodies and agencies under the aegis of her department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23470/17]

*94. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Justice and Equality if guidelines exist governing the behaviour of undercover police officers operating within non violent campaign groups; and if training is given to such undercover officers with regard to their human rights obligations while working undercover within such groups. — Clare Daly. [23488/17]

*95. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Justice and Equality the cost of the establishment of the horse mounted unit in An Garda Síochána; the annual running costs of this unit; and the number of persons deployed and the purpose of same. — Clare Daly. [23489/17]

*96. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Justice and Equality further to parliamentary question number 128 of 4 April 2017, the number of those fines imposed that specifically relate to smuggling or selling illicit cigarettes, fuel and alcohol; the number of attachment orders imposed; the number of persons sent to prison for non payment; and the number of those fines paid. — Declan Breathnach. [23490/17]

*97. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Justice and Equality the number of persons that are employed under the aegis of her department through agencies in the public sector; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [23934/17]

*98. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Justice and Equality the persons employed through agencies in her department, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [23947/17]

*99. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Justice and Equality the monetary value of all work contracted out under the aegis of her department to external agencies or consultancy for work completed or investigations undertaken in human resources and industrial relations including hiring and interviewing of staff and so on; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [23959/17]

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

*100. To ask the Minister for Finance if the Revenue Commissioners is legally entitled to take a portion of a person's social welfare payment if they have outstanding debt and tax liabilities; the procedure by which this can be done; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niall Collins. [23394/17]

*101. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has considered increasing the standard rate tax band from €33,800, based on personal circumstances of a single, widowed or a surviving civil partner, to €36,900 with a similar increase for all other personal circumstances; if he will provide a

costing of same in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [23419/17]

*102. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has considered introducing an additional tax band for income levels between €33,800 and €36,900 taxable at 33% based on personal circumstances of a single, widowed or a surviving civil partner without qualifying children with a similar band for all other personal circumstances; if he will provide a costing of same in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Marc MacSharry. [23420/17]

*103. To ask the Minister for Finance the amount spent by bodies and agencies under the aegis of his department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23466/17]

*104. To ask the Minister for Finance the restrictions, rules or regulations for regulated financial institutions in making phone contact with mortgage holders in arrears; the number of times per day, week or month they can ring a mortgage holder; the sanctions for financial institutions that break these rules; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [23579/17]

*105. To ask the Minister for Finance the status of a tax refund for a person (details supplied) in County Kildare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie Penrose. [23583/17]

*106. To ask the Minister for Finance if he or his department are assessing options on border control other than a hard border; and the measures which will be required between Northern Ireland and here, in view of the repeated statements from Prime Minister May regarding leaving the customs union and the response from the EU confirming that this will require a type of border. — Micheál Martin. [16716/17]

*107. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on the fines imposed on a bank (details supplied) for breaches of money laundering rules. — Micheál Martin. [20724/17]

*108. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of persons that are employed under the aegis of his department through agencies in the public sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [23931/17]

*109. To ask the Minister for Finance the persons employed through agencies in his department, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [23944/17]

*110. To ask the Minister for Finance the monetary value of all work contracted out under the aegis of his department to external agencies or consultancy for work completed or investigations undertaken in human resources and industrial relations including hiring and interviewing of staff and so on; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [23957/17]

Chun an Aire Oideachais agus Scileanna: To the Minister for Education and Skills.

*111. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the reason a person (details supplied) has been refused a place in a preschool pending receipt of a diagnostic report from the early intervention team; when the school will be provided with written confirmation of diagnosis from the early intervention team; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [23410/17]

*112. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the number of secondary schools by county that will roll out the junior certificate schools programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [23372/17]

*113. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the number of secondary schools by county that will roll out the leaving certificate applied programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [23373/17]

*114. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if NEPS is available for students throughout the summer months; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [23374/17]

*115. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills when a school (details supplied) will receive a decision on an application for additional accommodation of eight prefab classrooms. — Aindrias Moynihan. [23378/17]

*116. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if he will prioritise SNA applications from newly established schools announced in May 2017; and if he will ensure adequate SNA support is in place when they open in September 2017 in view of the fact the announcement came one month after the deadline for SNA applications by schools. — Aindrias Moynihan. [23379/17]

*117. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if he will address a matter raised in correspondence (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [23402/17]

*118. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if there are guidelines in place in relation to the use of quiet rooms for children with autism in schools; if his department monitors the use of such rooms; if training is provided to teachers in the use of quiet rooms and the circumstances in which they can be used; if his department has received complaints in relation to improper use of quiet rooms; if so, the number of complaints received; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [23412/17]

*119. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if a union (details supplied) will be invited to participate in the upcoming talks in relation to public sector pay; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [23413/17]

*120. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if no teacher that is a member of a union (details supplied) will be made redundant under the redeployment process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [23414/17]

*121. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if he will provide alternative school transport arrangements for a person (details supplied) with special educational needs in order to address the concerns of their parents. — Carol Nolan. [23415/17]

*122. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the reason a school (details supplied) has not been granted funding to provide additional classroom accommodation in view of the fact it was allocated an additional classroom teacher; if his attention has been drawn to the fact that the current multi purpose room is not suitable for classroom accommodation in view of the fact it has no toilet facilities and is currently being utilised as a multi sensory room for children with special educational needs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [23416/17]

*123. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if a person (details supplied) is eligible for the school transport scheme for the remainder of the junior cycle; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Kehoe. [23422/17]

*124. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if he will review the case of a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [23424/17]

*125. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the number of psychological assessments which have been undertaken by each NEPS service in each of the years 2012 to 2016 and to date in 2017. — Gerry Adams. [23426/17]

*126. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the number of psychological assessments which have been undertaken by the NEPS service in County Louth in each of the years 2012 to 2016 and to date in 2017. — Gerry Adams. [23427/17]

*127. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the number of psychological assessments which have been undertaken by each SCPA service in each of the years 2012 to 2016 and to date in 2017. — Gerry Adams. [23428/17]

*128. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the number of psychological assessments which have been undertaken by the SCPA service in County Louth in each of the years 2012 to 2016 and to date in 2017. — Gerry Adams. [23429/17]

*129. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the amount spent by his department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23448/17]

*130. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the amount spent by bodies and agencies under the aegis of his department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23464/17]

*131. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills when building works will commence on a school (details supplied) in Drumcondra. — Denise Mitchell. [23491/17]

*132. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the number of schools that will be implementing his proposals for cutting back to school costs as per circular 0032/2017; the number that will defer its implementation until September 2017; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denise Mitchell. [23496/17]

*133. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if an assurance will be given to parents of children in a school's (details supplied) catchment area that have not secured a place in 2017 that they will be accommodated in another school in September 2018. — Clare Daly. [23548/17]

*134. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his plans to aid a school (details supplied) to facilitate an extra class for the school year in September 2017. — Clare Daly. [23549/17]

*135. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his plans to aid a school (details supplied) to secure an extra class for the school year beginning in September 2017. — Clare Daly. [23550/17]

*136. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his plans to address the supply of national schools for the River Valley catchment area in Swords in view of the increases in the local population; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Clare Daly. [23551/17]

*137. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his views on a matter (details supplied) regarding unequal pay for teachers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [23562/17]

*138. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the position regarding an application for a required extension to a school (details supplied) in County Sligo; the progress to date with the proposal; the details of the extension involved; when construction is likely to commence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eamon Scanlon. [23568/17]

*139. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if his department stated in a court case (details supplied) that Bus Éireann does not make a profit from school transport; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Curran. [23576/17]

*140. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills further to parliamentary question number 221 of 9 May 2017, the reply to which did not address the question asked, if he will consider a change of policy to allow for greater flexibility for persons that already possess a qualification at a particular level and that wish to obtain a qualification in a different discipline at the same level already achieved due to the fact they are unable to find work in the field that their original qualification is in; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Boyd Barrett. [23586/17]

*141. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the number of persons that are employed under the aegis of his department through agencies in the public sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [23929/17]

*142. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the persons employed through agencies in his department, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [23943/17]

*143. To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the monetary value of all work contracted out under the aegis of his department to external agencies or consultancy for work completed or investigations undertaken in human resources and industrial relations including hiring and interviewing of staff and so on; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [23955/17]

Chun an Aire Tithíochta, Pleanála, Pobail agus Rialtais Áitiúil: To the Minister for Housing, Planning; Community and Local Government.

*144. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government the amount collected by local authorities in development contributions in each of the years 2000 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form. — Barry Cowen. [23386/17]

*145. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government if the review of planning legislation to allow the change of use of vacant commercial properties in cities, town and villages, as outlined in the action plan for rural development action 6 has taken place; if not, the stage the review is at; when the results will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [23392/17]

*146. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government if the relative requirements and appropriate targets for an additional rural resettlement initiative have been reviewed, as outlined in the action plan for rural development action 9; when the outcome of the review will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [23393/17]

*147. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government the position regarding the rollout of the housing assistance payment scheme; the local authorities covered to date in 2017; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23442/17]

*148. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government the amount spent by his department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23449/17]

*149. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government the amount spent by bodies and agencies under the aegis of his department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23465/17]

*150. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government when the ban on housing assistance payment will be lifted from Ballymun. — Denise Mitchell. [23493/17]

*151. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government if he will introduce legislation to provide city status to Drogheda; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [23500/17]

*152. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government his views on whether there are significant problems with section 28(2) of the Planning and Development and Residential Tenancies Act 2016 which only allows for a second extension for housing developments that commenced on site before their original planning permission expired, in view of the fact most of which would have been before 2012. — Pat Casey. [23536/17]

*153. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government the reason he has not commenced section 28 of the Planning and Development (Housing) and Residential Tenancies Act 2016. — Pat Casey. [23537/17]

*154. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government the advice which can be given to developers whose planning permission, and a section 42 extension, has expired and are awaiting section 28(2) commencement to apply for a second extension; if in the intervening period, all construction work should cease until such a time as he decides to commence section 28 and the developer can apply for extension or if such developers should just reapply for planning permission; and his views on whether this is acceptable. — Pat Casey. [23538/17]

*155. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government if section 28(2) of the Planning and Development and Residential Bill provided for a second extension for a housing development with 20 or more units that had been commenced and had not required an EIA or AA screening in the initial application, rather than just in respect of a development of the type referred to in subsection 42(1)(a)(i) of the principal act as amended. — Pat Casey. [23539/17]

*156. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government his views on whether a major mistake was made by him and his officials in the drafting of section 28(2) of

the Planning and Development and Residential Tenancies Act 2016; and his plans to hold anyone to account for this error in view of the costly effect it is having and will have on delaying major housing developments for which planning permission expires. — Pat Casey. [23540/17]

*157. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government the specific amendments he plans to make to section 28(2) of the Planning and Development and Residential Tenancies Act 2016 in the Planning and Development Amendment Bill 2016; and his views on whether the non enactment of section 28(2) could have very serious consequences in delaying housing developments for which their planning permission has expired. — Pat Casey. [23541/17]

*158. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government the number of persons that are employed under the aegis of his department through agencies in the public sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [23930/17]

*159. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government the monetary value of all work contracted out under the aegis of his department to external agencies or consultancy for work completed or investigations undertaken in human resources and industrial relations including hiring and interviewing of staff and so on; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [23956/17]

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

*160. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will grant a carer's allowance to a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [23396/17]

*161. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the steps he will take to tackle the reported delays on maternity benefit payments. — Ruth Coppinger. [23397/17]

*162. To ask the Minister for Social Protection his views on whether the reported delays on maternity benefit need to be tackled as an emergency in view of the fact it constitutes the only source of income for women whose employers do not pay for their maternity leave. — Ruth Coppinger. [23398/17]

*163. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if an exceptional needs payment will issue in the case of persons (details supplied) with particular reference to the insolvency of the persons; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [23425/17]

*164. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the amount spent by bodies and agencies under the aegis of his department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23472/17]

*165. To ask the Minister for Social Protection his plans to fully retain the free travel scheme; his further plans to make changes to the scheme in the near future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [23480/17]

*166. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of community employment schemes in the Dublin north area; the number of persons availing of these schemes, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denise Mitchell. [23494/17]

*167. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of payments made under the back to school clothing and footwear allowance in 2016; the cost of these payments; the estimated number

of individual payments to be made in 2017; and the estimated overall cost of these. — Denise Mitchell. [23495/17]

*168. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of persons that applied to the Dublin central rents unit that have been refused rent supplement and instructed to apply for the housing assistance scheme since 1 January 2017. — Mary Lou McDonald. [23517/17]

*169. To ask the Minister for Social Protection if he will permit the early termination of a contract with Turas Nua by a person (details supplied) who has secured an internship in a company that will further their employment prospects. — Sean Sherlock. [23521/17]

*170. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason a person (details supplied) has not had their appeal for a farm assist payment assessed. — Aindrias Moynihan. [23561/17]

*171. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason for the delay in a carer's allowance appeal for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [23575/17]

*172. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the additional cost that would be incurred if the pre 2012 bands were reestablished in the calculation of the State contributory pension in budget 2018; the further cost if this were to be backdated to all that incurred pension reductions as a result of the band changes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Curran. [23577/17]

*173. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the status of a one parent family payment to a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie O'Dea. [23578/17]

*174. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of persons that are employed under the aegis of his department through agencies in the public sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [23936/17]

*175. To ask the Minister for Social Protection the monetary value of all work contracted out under the aegis of his department to external agencies or consultancy for work completed or investigations undertaken in human resources and industrial relations including hiring and interviewing of staff and so on; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [23961/17]

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

*176. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade the purpose of British Royal Navy submarine activities off the west coast; and if there was engagement with authorities here in relation to recent reports of a British Royal Navy submarine operating near Achill Island, County Mayo. — Lisa Chambers. [23516/17]

*177. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade the amount spent by his department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23451/17]

*178. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade the amount spent by bodies and agencies under the aegis of his department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23467/17]

Chun an Aire Caiiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe: To the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform.

*179. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the number of ministerial permissions his department has given to members of An Garda Síochána to open bank accounts for official purposes since his department was established by section and or Garda divisions that received permission, in tabular form; the reason for the account opening and the year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [23369/17]

*180. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the number of persons that are employed under the aegis of his department through agencies in the public sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [23399/17]

*181. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the persons employed through agencies in his department, in tabular form. — Ruth Coppinger. [23400/17]

*182. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform his plans to upgrade Newcastlewest garda station in County Limerick; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Tom Neville. [23418/17]

*183. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the amount spent by his department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23455/17]

*184. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the amount spent by bodies and agencies under the aegis of his department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23471/17]

*185. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the monetary value of all work contracted out under the aegis of his department to external agencies or consultancy for work completed or investigations undertaken in human resources and industrial relations including hiring and interviewing of staff and so on. — Bríd Smith. [23485/17]

*186. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he will engage with a group (details supplied) in upcoming negotiations to ensure that the rights and conditions for retired public servants are fully addressed as part of future agreements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [23511/17]

*187. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the cost of installing a changing places facility for adults with disabilities in Áras an Uachtaráin; his plans to construct more of these facilities; the proposed locations of each; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jonathan O'Brien. [23513/17]

*188. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform if he will meet with representatives of a group (details supplied) to discuss the restoration of pensions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [23564/17]

Chun an Aire Ealaíon, Oidhreachta, Gnóthaí Réigiúnacha, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta: To the Minister for Arts, Heritage; Regional; Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.

*189. To ask the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs if the four innovation hubs in the Gaeltacht regions of counties Donegal, Mayo, Galway and Kerry as outlined in the action plan for rural development action 84 have been developed; if not, the stage of development each hub has reached; the completion date for the hubs; the amount each hub will cost to develop; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [23387/17]

*190. To ask the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs if the recommendations of the commission for the economic development of rural areas report and the charter for rural Ireland have been reviewed, as outlined in the action plan for rural development action 86; when the review findings will be published; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [23388/17]

*191. To ask the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs if the industry wide long term plan for Ireland as a global hub for the production of film, television, drama and animation has been drawn up, as stated in the action plan for rural development; if not, the stage of completion the plan is at; the estimated date for publication; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [23389/17]

*192. To ask the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs the position regarding the review of the rural economic development zone initiative with regard to its impact on rural communities; the estimated date of completion; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Peadar Tóibín. [23390/17]

*193. To ask the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs the position regarding the scheme to indemnify private land owners with regard to recreational users of their lands as outlined in the action plan for rural development; the estimated date of publication of this scheme; and the estimated cost of same. — Peadar Tóibín. [23391/17]

*194. To ask the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs the amount spent by her department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23444/17]

*195. To ask the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs the amount spent by bodies and agencies under the aegis of her department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form. — Barry Cowen. [23460/17]

*196. To ask the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs her views on a matter (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [23484/17]

*197. To ask the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs her plans to review the time limits for the release of materials under the National Archives Act, 1986; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [23502/17]

*198. To ask the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs the number of staff employed by the National Archives per annum in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [23503/17]

*199. To ask the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs her plans to extend the capacity of the National Archives; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [23504/17]

*200. To ask the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs the number of persons that are employed under the aegis of her department through agencies in the public sector; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [23926/17]

*201. To ask the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs the persons employed through agencies in her department, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [23939/17]

*202. To ask the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs the monetary value of all work contracted out under the aegis of her department to external agencies or consultancy for work completed or investigations undertaken in human resources and industrial relations including hiring and interviewing of staff and so on; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [23951/17]

Chun an Aire Sláinte: To the Minister for Health.

*203. To ask the Minister for Health his plans regarding the regulation of surrogacy; the timeframe for this legislation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — James Lawless. [23580/17]

*204. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the future of the vacant health centre in Rathangan, County Kildare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Loughlin. [23370/17]

*205. To ask the Minister for Health the status of home help assistance for a person (details supplied) in County Donegal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [23401/17]

*206. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide details of all recreational and training activity providers that are currently employed by the HSE in County Kerry; the services provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [23404/17]

*207. To ask the Minister for Health if a person (details supplied) will be granted an appointment in Tallaght or in another hospital offering the same service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [23405/17]

*208. To ask the Minister for Health the amount of funding allocated to each of the various Alzheimer's associations across the State in each of the past five years, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [23406/17]

*209. To ask the Minister for Health the reason tests in German laboratories for the detection of Lyme disease are not recognised here; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [23407/17]

*210. To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the concerns in relation to the accuracy of tests carried out here to detect Lyme disease; the testing process; the mechanisms in place to ensure accuracy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [23408/17]

*211. To ask the Minister for Health if there is a specific module or component in medical training covering the detection, diagnosis and treatment of Lyme disease; if such training is compulsory; the length of training required on this particular issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [23409/17]

*212. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the diagnosis of a person (details supplied) will not be confirmed in a report prior to the enrolment of the person in preschool; if the report can be provided in time for the person to enrol; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Carol Nolan. [23411/17]

*213. To ask the Minister for Health if he has received a report on the external evidence review to inform the parameters of a revision of A Vision for Change; if he will publish same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Martin. [23417/17]

*214. To ask the Minister for Health his views on the substantial increase in nursing home fees following a review by the national treatment purchase fund (details supplied); his further views on the impact this will have on fee paying patients; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [23423/17]

*215. To ask the Minister for Health the amount spent by his department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23452/17]

*216. To ask the Minister for Health the amount spent by bodies and agencies under the aegis of his department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23468/17]

*217. To ask the Minister for Health if he will reopen a medical card application for a person (details supplied) in view of exceptional circumstances which were out of the person's control; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [23475/17]

*218. To ask the Minister for Health if the national treatment purchase fund will provide a breakdown to justify the increase of the cost of a nursing home bed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [23476/17]

*219. To ask the Minister for Health the reason nursing home fee increases are being retrospectively applied to a person (details supplied) in County Kerry without written or verbal notice of the increase; if these additional fees will be waived in view of the inadequate consultation and notice; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [23478/17]

*220. To ask the Minister for Health if he will reply to correspondence (details supplied) in relation to registered nurses with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland status that were refused critical skills work permits; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [23479/17]

*221. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons waiting on the inpatient waiting list for the urology department in Saint James's hospital for six months, 12 months, 24 months, 36 months and 48 months respectively. — Joan Collins. [23481/17]

*222. To ask the Minister for Health the expected date of publication of the HSE action plan for scoliosis; his plans for the implementation of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Brady. [23482/17]

*223. To ask the Minister for Health when a person (details supplied) will receive an appointment for assessment of need; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin. [23486/17]

*224. To ask the Minister for Health the steps he is taking to address the nurse shortage in a healthcare centre (details supplied) in Ballymun. — Denise Mitchell. [23492/17]

*225. To ask the Minister for Health the number of children and adolescents currently waiting from zero to three months, three to six months, six to nine months, nine to 12 months, 12 to 18 months, 18 to 24 months and over 24 months for an appointment for child and adolescent mental health services in CHO area 1; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eamon Scanlon. [23497/17]

*226. To ask the Minister for Health the number of inpatient child and adolescent beds in the mental health services that are due to come on stream in 2017; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eamon Scanlon. [23498/17]

*227. To ask the Minister for Health the status of an appointment for a person (details supplied) in County Meath; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Shane Cassells. [23501/17]

*228. To ask the Minister for Health the reason the medical assessment unit in Our Lady of Lourdes hospital was recently closed; the number of such closures in 2016 and to date in 2017; if there will be no further closures; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [23505/17]

*229. To ask the Minister for Health further to parliamentary question numbers 619, 620 and 621 of 11 April 2017, the position regarding the need for respite services for persons with disabilities in each local health area for each of the past three years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [23506/17]

*230. To ask the Minister for Health further to parliamentary question numbers 619, 620 and 621 of 11 April 2017, the position regarding the fact that there are no dedicated respite services for children in County Louth; the steps he will take to address same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [23507/17]

*231. To ask the Minister for Health further to parliamentary question numbers 619, 620 and 621 of 11 April 2017, the funding provided in each of the years 2008 to 2016 and to date in 2017 for respite beds for persons with disabilities; the way in which the funding was distributed, by location and organisation; the number and type of services provided at each location; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [23508/17]

*232. To ask the Minister for Health if the long term illness scheme will include Crohn's disease on the list of approved conditions (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Frank O'Rourke. [23510/17]

*233. To ask the Minister for Health further to parliamentary question number 560 of 4 April 2017, if the 2,786 persons waiting over 12 months for cataract surgery can avail of the national

treatment purchase fund; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Shane Cassells. [23522/17]

*234. To ask the Minister for Health if he will include persons with asthma in the long term illness scheme or in a targeted scheme such as a chronic disease card; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [23523/17]

*235. To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding the commitment in the National Clinical Programme for Asthma to a free structural asthma management programme for every person with asthma; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [23524/17]

*236. To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide core funding for supporting educational programmes by a group (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [23525/17]

*237. To ask the Minister for Health if he will expedite an appointment for hip surgery for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Robert Troy. [23526/17]

*238. To ask the Minister for Health further to the € 632,117,844 income raised by private charges (details supplied) by hospitals in 2016, the amount of this private income which was charged following emergency admissions; and the amount which was charged following elective admission in each of the years 2014 to 2016, in tabular form. — Billy Kelleher. [23527/17]

*239. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to include asthma in the long term illness scheme or on another targeted scheme such as chronic disease card (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [23545/17]

*240. To ask the Minister for Health his plans to conduct a study to show savings his department could make regarding accident and emergency visits, bed occupancy or primary care visits from asthma sufferers and those diagnosed with asthma if they were to have access to preventative asthma medication either through a long term illness scheme or a chronic disease card; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [23546/17]

*241. To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding the availability of ambulance services at Sligo university hospital; if there are periods for which there is a reduced service; the areas in which a service is not provided; the location and times when this occurs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eamon Scanlon. [23552/17]

*242. To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding a hip replacement surgery for a person (details supplied) at the Midland regional hospital, Tullamore; if same can be expedited; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie Penrose. [23581/17]

*243. To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding an appointment for a medical procedure for a person (details supplied) in County Kildare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie Penrose. [23582/17]

*244. To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding a referral for a medical appointment for a person (details supplied) in County Kildare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie Penrose. [23584/17]

*245. To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons that are employed under the aegis of his department through agencies in the public sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [23932/17]

*246. To ask the Minister for Health the persons employed through agencies in his department, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [23945/17]

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

*247. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will review a person's (details supplied) eligibility for GLAS in view of the fact that their amendment to land parcels was submitted to his department ahead of deadline; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Charlie McConalogue. [23403/17]

*248. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine when he will publish the 26 submissions received as part of the review of replacement capacity under the sea fishing licencing regime; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Éamon Ó Cuív. [23430/17]

*249. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will address a matter (details supplied) regarding milk fines; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [23431/17]

*250. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the amount spent by his department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23443/17]

*251. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the amount spent by bodies and agencies under the aegis of his department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23459/17]

*252. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the number of applications received under TAMS 2; the approvals issued for same; the payments claims lodged and the number of cases approved for payment in 2016 and to date in 2017, by county, in tabular form; the number of persons that have been approved for TAMS 2 that have yet to receive payment in 2016 and to date in 2017; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eugene Murphy. [23477/17]

*253. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if a decision has been made on an application for grant aid by a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [23483/17]

*254. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will review the case of persons in the Silvermines area of County Tipperary that have lost production due to residues; if compensation will be arranged to offset their significant losses until the problem is resolved; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jackie Cahill. [23512/17]

*255. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will expedite the GLAS 2 payments for a person (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [23519/17]

*256. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if his attention has been drawn to the fact that the scheme operated by the Office of Public Works regarding flood relocation does not cover the relocation of farm operations (details supplied); and his plans to compensate farmers whose land has been severely affected by flooding in recent years. — Robert Troy. [23520/17]

*257. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will address a matter (details supplied) regarding Coillte owned forestry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Healy-Rae. [23528/17]

*258. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine his plans to extend the deadline for knowledge transfer in view of the fact that the online system is not working to date (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Anne Rabbitte. [23529/17]

*259. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will extend the 31 May 2017 deadline for the knowledge transfer programme to 30 June 2017; if his attention has been drawn to the fact that there is a lot of paper work involved with the scheme and that Teagasc have been given no extra staff to deal with the volume of queries; if his attention has further been drawn to the fact that there have been a number of technical issues with the scheme online when submitting details; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [23543/17]

*260. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the reason a person (details supplied) has had their young farmers scheme 2015 application deemed ineligible; if same can be reviewed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie Penrose. [23544/17]

*261. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine if he will give consideration to a matter (details supplied) regarding the knowledge transfer programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Niamh Smyth. [23547/17]

*262. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the details of the research behind the claim that Ireland is recognised as having one of the most technologically advanced and carbon efficient food production systems; if there is a difference between the methane emissions of an Irish cow as opposed to non Irish cows; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Wallace. [23553/17]

*263. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the estimated methane emissions from the State's beef and dairy cattle; the projected methane emissions from same; if the objectives of food wise 2025 will be implemented; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Wallace. [23554/17]

*264. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the persons employed through agencies in his department, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [23938/17]

*265. To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine the monetary value of all work contracted out under the aegis of his department to external agencies or consultancy for work completed or investigations undertaken in human resources and industrial relations including hiring and interviewing of staff and so on; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [23950/17]

Chun an Aire Cumarsáide, Gníomhaithe ar son na hAeráide agus Comhshaoil: To the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment.

*266. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment further to parliamentary question number 511 of 2 May 2017, if the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland has provided him with its report and recommendations on the proposed media merger involving the acquisition of sole control of a company (details supplied); if he will publish this report immediately; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [23377/17]

*267. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the amount spent by his department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form. — Barry Cowen. [23446/17]

*268. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the amount spent by bodies and agencies under the aegis of his department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23462/17]

*269. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the persons employed through agencies in his department, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [23941/17]

*270. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment the monetary value of all work contracted out under the aegis of his department to external agencies or consultancy for work completed or investigations undertaken in human resources and industrial relations including hiring and interviewing of staff and so on; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [23953/17]

Chun an Aire Iompair, Turasóireachta agus Spóirt: To the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport.

*271. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport further to parliamentary question number 45 of 10 May 2017, if he will meet with the group concerned or facilitate such a meeting; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Clare Daly. [23376/17]

*272. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport if further discussions between the stakeholders regarding the Narrow Water bridge project have taken place as was alluded to in a report of the North South Ministerial Council in November 2016 (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Declan Breathnach. [23395/17]

*273. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the amount spent by his department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23458/17]

*274. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the amount spent by bodies and agencies under the aegis of his department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23474/17]

*275. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the reason a person (details supplied) has to sit their taxi licence test for the tenth time after having passed both tests on different dates. — Niamh Smyth. [23518/17]

Chun an Aire Post, Fiontar agus Nuálaíochta: To the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation.

*276. To ask the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation the amount spent by her department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23453/17]

*277. To ask the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation the amount spent by bodies and agencies under the aegis of her department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23469/17]

*278. To ask the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation the number of visits to County Kerry by prospective Industrial Development Agency Ireland companies in 2016; the details of these visits; her views on this level of visitation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Griffin. [23569/17]

*279. To ask the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation the number of persons that are employed under the aegis of her department through agencies in the public sector; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [23933/17]

*280. To ask the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation the persons employed through agencies in her department, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [23946/17]

*281. To ask the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation the monetary value of all work contracted out under the aegis of her department to external agencies or consultancy for work completed or investigations undertaken in human resources and industrial relations including hiring and interviewing of staff and so on; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [23958/17]

Chun an Aire Leanaí agus Gnóthaí Óige: To the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs.

*282. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the amount spent by her department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form. — Barry Cowen. [23445/17]

*283. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the amount spent by bodies and agencies under the aegis of her department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23461/17]

*284. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if her attention has been drawn to the closure of a childcare facility (details supplied); if she will engage with the Dublin city childcare committee to ensure that places are sourced for the children in question; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [23574/17]

*285. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the number of persons that are employed under the aegis of her department through agencies in the public sector; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [23927/17]

*286. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the persons employed through agencies in her department, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [23940/17]

*287. To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the monetary value of all work contracted out under the aegis of her department to external agencies or consultancy for work completed or investigations undertaken in human resources and industrial relations including hiring and interviewing of staff and so on; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [23952/17]

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

*288. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the extent to which military intelligence can be enhanced to deal with potential terrorist attacks; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [23432/17]

*289. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if he has satisfied himself regarding the availability of equipment such as military hardware throughout all branches of the Defence Forces with particular reference to meeting needs arising from modern challenges; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [23433/17]

*290. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if he has satisfied himself that all equipment available to the Air Corps including aircraft and communications technology is adequately upgraded and updated in accordance with international best practice; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [23434/17]

*291. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if he has satisfied himself that all equipment available to the Naval Service including sea going vessels and communications technology is adequately upgraded and updated in accordance with international best practice; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [23435/17]

*292. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the number of promotional positions waiting to be filled throughout the Defence Forces; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [23436/17]

*293. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the strength of the Defence Forces currently serving overseas at all ranks; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [23437/17]

*294. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the extent to which further overseas deployment of the Defence Forces with the UN are envisaged; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [23438/17]

*295. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence if the budget available to his department remains sufficient to meet requirements in 2017; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [23439/17]

*296. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the degree to which the most modern training methods remain available to the Army, Naval Service and Air Corps; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [23440/17]

*297. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the strength of the Defence Forces including Reserves, Army, Naval Service and Air Corps; the number of women in each branch of the services; the likelihood of recruitment and replacements following retirements in 2017 and over the next five years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [23441/17]

*298. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the amount spent by his department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23447/17]

*299. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the amount spent by bodies and agencies under the aegis of his department on renting car park spaces in each of the years 2011 to 2016 and to date in 2017, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Barry Cowen. [23463/17]

*300. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the number of persons that are employed under the aegis of his department through agencies in the public sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [23928/17]

*301. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the persons employed through agencies in his department, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruth Coppinger. [23942/17]

*302. To ask the Taoiseach and Minister for Defence the monetary value of all work contracted out under the aegis of his department to external agencies or consultancy for work completed or investigations undertaken in human resources and industrial relations including hiring and interviewing of staff and so on; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bríd Smith. [23954/17]

**CEISTEANNA, SEACHAS CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH, I
gCOMHAIR FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL DÉARDAOIN, 18 BEALTAINE, 2017
QUESTIONS, OTHER THAN QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY, FOR ORAL
ANSWER ON THURSDAY, 18 MAY, 2017**

Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.

1. To ask the Minister for Finance the way the government and in particular his department are promoting the IFSC as an ideal location to do business; and if the IFSC clearing house is still meeting regularly. — Seán Haughey. [20413/17]

2. To ask the Minister for Finance further to parliamentary question 42 of 28 February 2017, if he will address a situation raised in correspondence (details supplied) regarding local property exemption. — Clare Daly. [22893/17]

3. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will use the proceeds from the sale of a bank (details supplied) to fund the State's infrastructure deficit and invest in housing and health rather than

paying down national debt; if he will publish the cost benefit analysis of selling the bank; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [23573/17]

4. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will suspend the help to buy scheme in view of the large increases in house prices; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [23357/17]

5. To ask the Minister for Finance the work his department has carried out examining the potential benefits of an all Ireland economy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [23356/17]

6. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has satisfied himself with the Central Bank's response to a bank's (details supplied) placing of 2,141 SME customers into a bank; his views on whether a formal review is required by the Central Bank to assess whether SME customers here were inappropriately treated; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [23534/17]

7. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will review the favourable tax treatment for real estate investment trusts and Irish real estate funds in view of reports that these are a factor in increasing house prices (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [23360/17]

8. To ask the Minister for Finance if the Central Bank will take particular steps to soften the manner in which original or secondary lenders treat home borrowers (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [23571/17]

9. To ask the Minister for Finance if section 33AT (1) of Part IIIC of the Central Bank Act 1942 has been amended in subsequent finance legislation; if not, his plans to amend or remove that specific section which related to sanctions for criminal offences; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [23367/17]

10. To ask the Minister for Finance further to parliamentary question number 138 of 3 May 2017, if project shift was discussed at NAMA Northern Ireland advisory committee meetings; if a person (details supplied) advised the debtor in question involved with project shift; if project shift was externally valued; when it was decided by NAMA to change it from an asset sale to a loan sale; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Wallace. [23361/17]

11. To ask the Minister for Finance if he has given consideration to the need to establish a code of conduct on mortgage switching, similar to the code of conduct on the switching of payment accounts with payment service providers, in view of the recent research undertaken by the Central Bank on mortgage switching; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [23531/17]

12. To ask the Minister for Finance the reason for the underperformance of USC in the January to February period of 2017; the difference in the projected and actual intake; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [23363/17]

13. To ask the Minister for Finance his plans to refinance a quarter of the State's national debt between October 2017 and October 2020; and the steps being taken by the NTMA to minimise the risks to the State in this period of great economic uncertainty. — Thomas P. Broughan. [18352/17]

14. To ask the Minister for Finance if Dáil Éireann will be allowed to vote before a final decision is made on the future of a State owned bank (details supplied) in view of the fact that the bank is 99.9 per cent owned by the State and has received €20.8 billion in public funds when it was bailed out; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Murphy. [23560/17]

15. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will request flexibility with regard to the fiscal rules in view of the well documented impact of Brexit on the economy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [23358/17]

16. To ask the Minister for Finance further to statements in Dáil Éireann on 4 April 2017 that the Revenue Commissioners operate an administrative solution to the pyrite local property tax problem, if he will review the pyrite local property tax exemption in view of the fact that homeowners whose properties cannot be sold or renovated due to the presence of pyrite are unable to avail of the exemption as a result of the way the legislation is constructed. — Clare Daly. [23567/17]

17. To ask the Minister for Finance when he and the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs will bring forward firm proposals for community banking in view of the recent public consultation on such banking models; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [23366/17]

18. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide a report on the large levels of tax expenditures in relation to research and development tax credits each year since 2010; if his department carries out regular cost benefit analyses on this level of expenditure and revenue foregone; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [18345/17]

19. To ask the Minister for Finance the amount of lending carried out by a company (details supplied) to date in 2017 to the construction sector; his views on whether the State can do more to ensure the construction sector has access to finance to build the required homes and office accommodation around the country; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [23533/17]

20. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on whether the first time buyers grant is having a destructive impact on the private housing market and leading to massive inflationary pressures in the price of homes. — Barry Cowen. [17418/17]

21. To ask the Minister for Finance the details of all fines paid, including the monetary value and transgression for each individual fine, by a bank (details supplied) since the State acquired a majority stake in the bank; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Catherine Connolly. [23364/17]

22. To ask the Minister for Finance the funds that have been drawn down from within the State from the Junckers investment fund since its inception. — Eamon Ryan. [23572/17]

23. To ask the Minister for Finance if he will rule out further tax cuts in budget 2018 in view of recent disappointing exchequer returns and to ensure all fiscal space is directed towards maintaining and improving public services and investment in capital infrastructure; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pearse Doherty. [23359/17]

24. To ask the Minister for Finance further to a survey by a company (details supplied) that showed a widespread lack of knowledge and understanding of customs regulations and practices,

the steps he will take to ensure businesses are fully prepared for this outcome should the government fail to secure a special status designation for Northern Ireland. — Maurice Quinlivan. [23030/17]

25. To ask the Minister for Finance the position regarding the Central Bank's tracker mortgage review; the number of mortgages involved in the review; the number of persons that have received redress and compensation to date; if he has satisfied himself that the independent appeal systems put in place by the banks are sufficient for aggrieved customers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael McGrath. [23535/17]

26. To ask the Minister for Finance further to parliamentary question number 138 of 3 May 2015, the number of the 117 prospective investors approached by the loan sale advisor that had originally approached the debtor expressing an interest in the portfolio; if any of these investors were one of the 12 that submitted first round offers or one of the eight invited into the second round of bidding on project shift; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mick Wallace. [23362/17]

27. To ask the Minister for Finance his views on excise duties on diesel vehicles in the context of budget 2018; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [21494/17]

28. To ask the Minister for Finance the extent to which he remains satisfied regarding Ireland's growth potential for the future in comparison with all other EU states within the euro zone and without notwithstanding Brexit or shifting geopolitical positions; if particular positional changes are required to maximise Ireland's potential; the way in which Ireland now compares economically with its EU neighbours in terms of economic performance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [23570/17]