

*Dé Máirt, 6 Aibreán, 2004*  
*Tuesday, 6th April, 2004*

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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 if he will report on the matters discussed and conclusions reached at his meeting with the president of the Union of Industrial and Employers' Confederations of Europe; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Higgins. [3694/04]
2. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his attendance at the World Economic Forum in Davos; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Higgins. [3698/04]
3. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the matters discussed and conclusions reached at his meeting with the French Foreign Minister, Mr Dominique de Villepin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Higgins. [3700/04]
4. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent meeting in Dublin with the Portuguese Prime Minister, Mr Durao Barroso; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [4593/04]
5. To ask the Taoiseach the matters discussed and conclusions reached at his meeting with the German Chancellor, Mr Gerhard Schroeder, on 9 February 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [4626/04]
6. To ask the Taoiseach if he will make a statement on his participation in the World Economic Summit at Davos in Switzerland. — Pat Rabbitte. [4627/04]
7. To ask the Taoiseach if he will make a statement on the outcome of his meeting on 12 February 2004 with the Italian Prime Minister, Silvio Berlusconi. — Pat Rabbitte. [5050/04]
8. To ask the Taoiseach the agenda for the March 2004 meeting of the European Council; and if he will make a statement on the matter; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [5584/04]
9. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting in Rome with the Italian Prime Minister, Mr Berlusconi, on 12 February 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [5586/04]
10. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting in Dublin on 16 February 2004 with the Estonian Prime Minister, Mr Juhan Parts; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [5690/04]
11. To ask the Taoiseach if he will make a statement on the outcome of his meeting in Dublin on 16 February 2004 with the Estonian Prime Minister, Juhan Parts. — Pat Rabbitte. [5711/04]

12. To ask the Taoiseach if he will make a statement on the outcome of his meeting in Dublin on 16 February 2004 with the UN Special Adviser on Cyprus. — Pat Rabbitte. [5712/04]

13. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his attendance at the Davos World Economic Forum; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [5886/04]

14. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his 12 February 2004 meeting with the Italian Prime Minister, Silvio Berlusconi; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [5888/04]

15. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his February 2004 meeting in Dublin with the German Chancellor, Mr Gerhard Schroeder; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [5889/04]

16. To ask the Taoiseach if he has received a letter from Prime Minister Blair, Chancellor Schroeder and President Chirac on the outcome of their tripartite meeting in Berlin on 18 February 2004; his views on the call made at the meeting for the appointment of a European Commission vice-president to drive the Lisbon process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [6064/04]

17. To ask the Taoiseach the contents of the letter received by him on 18 February 2004 from the leaders of Britain, France and Germany, following their tripartite summit in Berlin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [6105/04]

18. To ask the Taoiseach the matters discussed and conclusions reached at his recent meeting with the Estonian Prime Minister, Mr. Juhan Parts, in Dublin. — Joe Higgins. [6695/04]

19. To ask the Taoiseach the matters discussed and conclusions reached at his recent meeting with the German Chancellor, Mr Gerhard Schroeder. — Joe Higgins. [6697/04]

20. To ask the Taoiseach the matters discussed and conclusions reached at his recent meeting with the Portuguese Prime Minister, Mr Durao Barroso. — Joe Higgins. [6698/04]

21. To ask the Taoiseach the matters discussed and conclusions reached at his recent meeting with the Italian Prime Minister, Mr Silvio Berlusconi. — Joe Higgins. [6699/04]

22. To ask the Taoiseach the matters discussed and conclusions reached at his recent meeting with the Finnish Prime Minister, Mr Matti Vanhanen. — Joe Higgins. [6700/04]

23. To ask the Taoiseach the matters discussed and conclusions reached at his recent meeting with the UN Secretary General's special advisor on Cyprus, Mr Alvaro de Soto. — Joe Higgins. [6701/04]

24. To ask the Taoiseach if Prime Minister Blair, Chancellor Schroder and President Chirac have communicated with him regarding their tripartite meeting in Berlin on 18 February 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Higgins. [6703/04]

25. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the correspondence he received from the Prime Ministers of Italy, Spain, the Netherlands, Portugal, Poland and Estonia regarding the Lisbon agenda of economic reforms; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Higgins. [6708/04]

26. To ask the Taoiseach if he will make a statement on the outcome of his meeting on 23 February 2004 with the Finnish Prime Minister, Mr Matti Vanhanen. — Pat Rabbitte. [6717/04]
27. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent meeting with the Chairman of the Convention on the Future of Europe, Mr Valery Giscard d'Estaing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [8595/04]
28. To ask the Taoiseach if he will make a statement on the outcome of his meeting on 10 March 2004 with the Danish Prime Minister, Mr Anders Fogh Rasmussen. — Pat Rabbitte. [8600/04]
29. To ask the Taoiseach if he will make a statement on the outcome of his meeting with the Prime Minister of Slovakia, Mr Mikulas Dzurinda on 12 March 2004. — Pat Rabbitte. [8601/04]
30. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting with the European Environment Bureau, the European Trade Union Confederation, and the Social Platform on 2 February 2004 concerning the agenda for the spring EU Summit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [8605/04]
31. To ask the Taoiseach the steps he proposes to take in his capacity as President of the Council of Ministers, arising from the bomb attacks in Madrid on 11 March 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [8954/04]
32. To ask the Taoiseach the discussions he has had, or plans to have, with other EU leaders arising from the bomb attacks in Madrid on 11 March 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [8955/04]
33. To ask the Taoiseach the contact he has had with the Spanish Prime Minister elect, José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, following the Spanish general election on 14 March 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [8956/04]
34. To ask the Taoiseach the matters discussed and conclusions reached at the European Council meeting in Brussels on 25 and 26 March 2004. — Joe Higgins. [9086/04]
35. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his contacts with EU leaders following the terrorist atrocity in Madrid; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Higgins. [9092/04]
36. To ask the Taoiseach the matters discussed and conclusions reached at his meeting with the French President in advance of the European Council meeting in March 2004. — Joe Higgins. [9093/04]
37. To ask the Taoiseach the matters discussed and conclusions reached at his meeting with the Chair of the Convention on the Future of Europe, Mr. Valery Giscard d'Estaing. — Joe Higgins. [9101/04]
38. To ask the Taoiseach the matters discussed and conclusions reached at his meeting with the Slovak Prime Minister, Mr. Mikulas Dzurinda. — Joe Higgins. [9102/04]
39. To ask the Taoiseach the contacts he has had with the new Spanish Prime Minister, Mr José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [9110/04]

40. To ask the Taoiseach if he will make a statement on his participation in and the outcome of the Spring European Council on 25 and 26 March 2004. — Pat Rabbitte. [9563/04]

41. To ask the Taoiseach if he will make a statement on his visit to Madrid on 24 March 2004. — Pat Rabbitte. [9567/04]

42. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting with the president of the Union of Industrial and Employers' Confederations of Europe; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin. [9770/04]

43. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his visit to Madrid on 24 March 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin. [9817/04]

44. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the outcome of the March 2004 meeting of the European Council; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [10542/04]

45. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his bilateral meetings on the margins of the recent European Council meeting in Brussels; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [10544/04]

46. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his address to the European Parliament in Strasbourg on 31 March 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [10545/04]

47. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting of 9 February 2004 with the Palestinian Prime Minister, Mr. Ahmed Qurei; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [4594/04]

48. To ask the Taoiseach if he will make a statement on the outcome of his meeting on 9 February 2004 with the Palestinian Prime Minister, Mr Ahmed Qurei. — Pat Rabbitte. [4625/04]

49. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the outcome of his meeting with the Palestinian Prime Minister, Mr Ahmed Qurei; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [5887/04]

50. To ask the Taoiseach the matters discussed and conclusions reached at his recent meeting with the Palestinian Prime Minister, Mr Ahmed Qurei. — Joe Higgins. [6696/04]

51. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his attendance at the conference, Breaking the Barriers: Partnership to Fight HIV/AIDS in Europe and Central Asia. — Joe Higgins. [6707/04]

52. To ask the Taoiseach the proposed agenda for his next meeting with the President of the United States of America; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Higgins. [6968/04]

53. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent contacts with the US administration. — Joe Higgins. [6969/04]

54. To ask the Taoiseach his priorities for the visit of the President of the United States of America to Ireland on 25 and 26 June 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Higgins. [6970/04]

55. To ask the Taoiseach if arrangements have been finalised for his planned meeting with the US President in June 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [7484/04]

56. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting with the King of Jordan on 1 March 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [7523/04]

57. To ask the Taoiseach if he will make a statement on his participation in the recent conference, Breaking the Barriers: Partnership to fight HIV/AIDS in Europe and Central Asia. — Pat Rabbitte. [7567/04]

58. To ask the Taoiseach the likely agenda for the proposed EU-US summit in June 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [7568/04]

59. To ask the Taoiseach if a location has been agreed for his EU-US summit meeting with President Bush in June 2004; if a programme has been agreed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [7569/04]

60. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his most recent contacts with members of the United States administration; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [7570/04]

61. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his attendance at the Breaking the Barriers: Partnership to fight HIV/AIDS conference; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [7572/04]

62. To ask the Taoiseach the agenda for the planned trip of US President George Bush to Ireland on 25 and 26 June 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [7578/04]

63. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting with the Prime Minister of Palestine, Ahmed Qurei; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin. [7945/04]

64. To ask the Taoiseach if he will make a statement on the outcome of his visit to the United States around St. Patrick's Day 2004. — Pat Rabbitte. [8287/04]

65. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent meeting with US President Bush; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [8290/04]

66. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent visit to the United States; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [8291/04]

67. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent visit to the United States, particularly on discussions he had with President Bush and the Bush Administration; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [8594/04]

68. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent visit to the United States. — Joe Higgins. [9087/04]

69. To ask the Taoiseach the matters discussed and conclusions reached at his recent meeting with the President of the United States, Mr. George W. Bush; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Higgins. [9088/04]

70. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his attendance at the American Ireland Fund dinner; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Higgins. [9089/04]

71. To ask the Taoiseach the proposed agenda for the visit of the President of the United States of America to Ireland on 25 and 26 June 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Higgins. [9097/04]

72. To ask the Taoiseach if the arrangements for the visit of the President of the United States of America to Ireland on 25 and 26 June 2004 have been finalised; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Higgins. [9107/04]

73. To ask the Taoiseach if there has been reconsideration of the planned visit here by President Bush; if not, the additional security precautions which will be put into operation for the visit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [9111/04]

74. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent official visit to the United States, in particular, on his meeting with President Bush and the US administration; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [9175/04]

75. To ask the Taoiseach if the use of Ireland as the venue for the EU-US summit was at the request of US President George Bush; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin. [9560/04]

76. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his discussions with US President George Bush in Washington on 17 March 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin. [9562/04]

77. To ask the Taoiseach the matters he discussed with the US President when they met for St. Patrick's Day celebrations 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gay Mitchell. [10028/04]

78. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on recent developments in the Northern Ireland peace process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [5581/04]

79. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent contacts with the political parties in Northern Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [5582/04]

80. To ask the Taoiseach when he next expects to meet with the British Prime Minister; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [5583/04]

81. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his visit to Northern Ireland on 19 February 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [5689/04]

82. To ask the Taoiseach if he will make a statement on his visit to Northern Ireland on 19 February 2004. — Pat Rabbitte. [5709/04]

83. To ask the Taoiseach if he will make a statement on the outcome of his meeting on 19 February 2004 with representatives of the relatives of those who died in the Omagh bombings. — Pat Rabbitte. [6063/04]

84. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his visit to the Six Counties on 19 February 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin. [6521/04]

85. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his visit to Northern Ireland on 19 February 2004. — Joe Higgins. [6702/04]

86. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent contacts with the political parties on Northern Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Higgins. [6704/04]

87. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent contacts with the British Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Higgins. [6705/04]

88. To ask the Taoiseach if he will make a statement on his recent contacts with the political parties in Northern Ireland regarding developments in the peace process. — Pat Rabbitte. [6716/04]

89. To ask the Taoiseach the matters discussed at his meeting with a Sinn Féin delegation on 25 February 2004; if he raised with the delegation, reports that members of the Republican movement were involved in a violent incident in Belfast on 20 February 2004; the response he received; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [6771/04]

90. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on recent contacts with the British Government regarding Northern Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [7574/04]

91. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting with a Sinn Féin delegation on 25 February 2004; the agenda of the meeting; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [7575/04]

92. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his visit to Northern Ireland on 19 February 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [7576/04]

93. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on recent developments in the Northern Ireland peace process; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [7577/04]

94. To ask the Taoiseach his views on the decision by the Ulster Unionist Party leader Mr. David Trimble to withdraw his party from the review of the Belfast Agreement; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [7785/04]

95. To ask the Taoiseach the timescale he is envisaging for the review of the Good Friday Agreement; if this timescale is one shared with the British Government; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [7786/04]

96. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his telephone conversation with the leader of the Ulster Unionist Party, Mr. David Trimble, on 3 March 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [8289/04]

97. To ask the Taoiseach the matters discussed and conclusions reached at his meeting with the British Prime Minister, Mr. Tony Blair, on 11 March 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [8415/04]

98. To ask the Taoiseach when he next plans to visit Britain; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [8416/04]

99. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his recent meetings with the political parties in Northern Ireland at Hillsborough Castle. — Joe Higgins. [9096/04]

100. To ask the Taoiseach the matters discussed and conclusions reached at his recent meeting with the British Prime Minister, Mr. Tony Blair; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Higgins. [9098/04]

101. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting in February 2004 with representatives of the relatives of those who were killed in the Omagh bombings. — Joe Higgins. [9106/04]

102. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his meeting with the British Prime Minister at Hillsborough on 23 March 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin. [9561/04]

103. To ask the Taoiseach if he will make a statement on his discussions with the British Prime Minister, Mr. Tony Blair, in Hillsborough on 23 March 2004. — Pat Rabbitte. [9564/04]

104. To ask the Taoiseach if he will make a statement on the outcome of his discussions with the Northern Ireland political parties in Hillsborough on 23 March 2004. — Pat Rabbitte. [9565/04]

105. To ask the Taoiseach his assessment of the prospects for political progress in Northern Ireland in view of his discussions in Hillsborough on 23 March 2004. — Pat Rabbitte. [9566/04]

106. To ask the Taoiseach when he expects to receive the report of Mr. Justice Barron dealing with the Dundalk and Belturbet bombings and the murder of a person (details supplied); the procedure which will be used to deal with the report which is submitted; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [5710/04]

107. To ask the Taoiseach when he expects to receive a further report from the Barron Commission of Inquiry in respect of the Dundalk and Belturbet bombings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [6574/04]

108. To ask the Taoiseach when he expects to receive a further report from Justice Barron in respect of the Dundalk and Belturbet bombings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [7573/04]

109. To ask the Taoiseach if he has received the reports of Justice Barron on the bombings of Dublin in December 1972 and January 1973, the Belturbet bombing of 1972, the bomb at Dublin Airport in 1975, the Dundalk bombing of 1975, the Castleblayney bombing of 1976 and the murder of Seamus Ludlow in 1976. — Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin. [7947/04]

110. To ask the Taoiseach when he expects to receive a further report in relation to the Dundalk and Belturbet bombings from the Barron Commission of Inquiry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Higgins. [9104/04]

111. To ask the Taoiseach the Government's views on the recommendations of the sub committee of the Oireachtas Committee on Justice, Defence and Women's Rights on the Barron Report; the action the Government intends to take to ensure that the recommendations are implemented; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [10774/04]

112. To ask the Taoiseach the number of Freedom of Information requests received by his Department during February 2004; the way in which this figure compares with the same month in 2003; the fees paid to his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [7583/04]

113. To ask the Taoiseach the number of Freedom of Information requests received by his Department for the first three months of 2004; the number acceded to by his Department; the way these figures compare with comparable figures in 2003; the fees paid to his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [8597/04]

114. To ask the Taoiseach if referenda are being planned for 2004; if so, the nature of those referenda and the timescale involved; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [8593/04]

115. To ask the Taoiseach the referenda planned by the Government for the remainder of its term of office; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin. [10498/04]

116. To ask the Taoiseach his plans for Constitutional referendums during 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [10540/04]

117. To ask the Taoiseach the referenda the Government is planning to hold or is considering holding before the end of 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [10704/04]

118. To ask the Taoiseach when the next meeting of the cross-Departmental team on infrastructure and public private partnerships will be held; the likely agenda of the meeting; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [8596/04]

119. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of the cross-Departmental team on infrastructure and public private partnerships; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Higgins. [9103/04]

120. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Housing, Infrastructure and PPPs last met; its planned meetings for 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin. [10500/04]

121. To ask the Taoiseach when the cross-Departmental team on Housing, Infrastructure and PPPs last met; its planned meetings for the remainder of 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin. [10501/04]

122. To ask the Taoiseach when the cross-Departmental team on infrastructure and public private partnerships will next meet; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [10541/04]

123. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on the work of the cross-Departmental team on infrastructure and public private partnership; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [10705/04]

124. To ask the Taoiseach when he will next meet with the social partners; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [8598/04]

125. To ask the Taoiseach when he next expects to meet with the social partners; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Higgins. [9099/04]

126. To ask the Taoiseach if he will report on his involvement in talks on the next phase of the Social Partnership Agreement; when he will meet the relevant parties; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin. [10497/04]

127. To ask the Taoiseach when he will next meet with the social partners; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [10543/04]

128. To ask the Taoiseach the matters discussed and conclusions reached at the meeting with the social partners in his Department on 29 March 2004; his views on the prospects of a new pay deal for private sector workers in view of the meeting; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [10701/04]

129. To ask the Taoiseach when the next quarterly meeting of the social partners under the Sustaining Progress process is planned; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [10702/04]

130. To ask the Taoiseach his views on whether there should be a successor national agreement to Sustaining Progress; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [10703/04]

131. To ask the Taoiseach if, in view of the recent atrocity in Madrid, he plans to convene a meeting of the high level group chaired by his Department to monitor the aftermath of the September 2001 terrorist attack in the United States; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [8970/04]

132. To ask the Taoiseach if the high level group on terrorism has met since the Madrid bombings; if not, when it intends to meet again; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [9109/04]

133. To ask the Taoiseach if the National Security Committee has met since the Madrid bombings; the membership of the Committee; if it has reviewed the threat level from international terrorists to this country since Madrid; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Dinny McGinley. [9568/04]

134. To ask the Taoiseach when the high level group, chaired by his Department, established after 11 September 2001 last met; if the group has considered the implications of the Madrid bombing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [10706/04]

135. To ask the Taoiseach when the Cabinet Committee on Social Inclusion last met. — Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin. [10499/04]

136. To ask the Taoiseach if he has received information regarding the number of tourists who have visited Ireland since 1 January 2004; the way in which this compares with the same period in 2003; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jack Wall. [10648/04]

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**CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH  
QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY**

**Chun an Aire Ealaíon, Spóirt agus Turasóireachta: To the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism.**

137. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism if a final decision has been reached regarding the refurbishment of the national theatre on its present site, in view of the difficulties being encountered in acquiring the necessary additional property adjacent to the existing site; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [10663/04]

138. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism his views on figures recently released by the Central Statistics Office that for the first time the amount being spent overseas by Irish persons exceeded the amount spent here by tourists; if, in light of these statistics, he has plans to encourage Irish persons to holiday here; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jack Wall. [10662/04]

139. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism the trends he has identified in the latest tourism and travel figures from the Central Statistics Office; his views on whether the underlying trend still leaves cause for concern for the Irish tourism sector; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Gogarty. [10838/04]

140. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism if he has received a report from the chairperson of the Arts Council regarding the scrapping of the 2002-2006 Arts Plan, which was included in the Programme for Government 2002-2007; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Damien English. [10664/04]

**CEISTEANNA EILE  
OTHER QUESTIONS**

**Chun an Aire Ealaíon, Spóirt agus Turasóireachta: To the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism.**

141. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism his Department's plans for the promotion of the arts, whether directly or through other agencies; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [10572/04]

142. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism if a Departmental monitoring team has been appointed to oversee the construction of the proposed national stadium at Lansdowne Road; and if not, the timescale envisaged for its establishment. — Trevor Sargent. [10616/04]

143. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism if adverse media reports concerning public drinking, especially among teenagers, in Dublin city centre on St. Patrick's Day may be a deterrent to families and visitors enjoying the festivities; the effect such reports may have for the tourist industry during such a significant date in the calendar; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Costello. [10644/04]

144. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism his views on the workings of the institutions created to promote tourism under the Good Friday Agreement; the benefits that have accrued to arts and tourism under these institutions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie Penrose. [10639/04]

145. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism the work schedule for the new stadium at Lansdowne Road, including the possible commencement and completion dates; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Simon Coveney. [10629/04]

146. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism the reason for the cancellation of a major concert on 1 May 2004 to celebrate the enlargement of the European Union; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Gogarty. [10609/04]

147. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism the alternative celebration which is being put in place for 1 May 2004 following the cancellation of the major concert; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Dan Boyle. [10606/04]

148. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism if the authorities of UCD have been approached regarding the provision of additional space to extend the National Concert Hall at Earlsfort Terrace; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Olivia Mitchell. [10624/04]

149. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism the support available for and his views on the state of the Irish film industry; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [10622/04]

150. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism the position with regard to the provision of a national conference centre; when, in the autumn, he expects the Government to be in a position to secure a final decision; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Liz McManus. [10637/04]

151. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism further to Parliamentary Question No. 112 of 25 February 2004, the evidence which exists to show that the scale of investment in a swimming pool project is not sufficiently large to support a formal Public Private Partnership; and the other options available to local authorities wishing to develop swimming pool projects, partially funded from the Local Authority Swimming Pool Programme. — Paul Gogarty. [10602/04]

152. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism when the allocation of funding under the Sports Capital Programme 2004 will be announced; the budget which will be available; and if contingency plans have been put in place to notify sporting organisations should the postal dispute continue. — Trevor Sargent. [10615/04]

153. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism his views on the number of attacks on tourists, as reported in the national media recently; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Deasy. [10633/04]

154. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism the number of applications received in relation to the provision of new swimming pools and for the refurbishment of existing pools; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Kathleen Lynch. [10642/04]

155. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism the discussions he has had with the various sporting organisations following the decision on the national stadium; if he has had further negotiations with particular reference to Abbotstown or other locations; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [10571/04]

156. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism the position regarding the re-development of the Abbey Theatre; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emmet Stagg. [10638/04]

157. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism his views on whether the domestic tourist industry is over-reliant on visitors from Britain in view of recent statistics released by the Central Statistics Office; his further views on the weak growth in the number of visitors from Canada and the United States and other areas; his plans to promote Ireland as a tourist destination outside Britain and Europe; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mary Upton. [10647/04]

158. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism the plans he has to review the quality standards in tourism; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [10442/04]

159. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism if his attention has been drawn to recent comments by the newly elected president of the Irish Hotels Federation that the Government will have to step up its efforts to try and keep costs down to ensure Ireland remains a popular tourist destination; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Breeda Moynihan-Cronin. [10650/04]

160. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism the plans that have been finalised in relation to the development of the Lansdowne Road stadium; and the cost and timeframe involved in the proposal. — Jim O'Keefe. [10570/04]

161. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism if, in view of his statutory responsibility for promoting the arts within and without the State, he is considering the establishment of Irish cultural institutes abroad, along the lines of the British Council, the Goethe-Institut or the Alliance Francaise; his views on whether the absence of such Irish institutions prevents the promotion of cultural relations abroad; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jan O'Sullivan. [10651/04]

162. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism when allocations will be made under the Sports Capital Programme 2004; and the basis on which such allocations will be made. — Jim O'Keefe. [10569/04]

163. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism when the first report of the implementation committee established to put into effect the recommendations of the Tourism Policy Review Group will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [10623/04]

164. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism his views on the recent resignation of the director of the Arts Council; his further views on whether this decision was based on the Council's decision to set aside the Arts Plan 2002-2006; the future for the Arts Plan 2002-2006 in view of this development; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael D. Higgins. [10654/04]

165. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism the progress that has been made by the steering group comprised of representatives of the FAI, the IRFU, the OPW and his Department to oversee the construction of the new national stadium at Lansdowne Road; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [10635/04]

166. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism the funding available for the next round of the local authority swimming pool programme; when he will announce

successful applicants for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [10621/04]

167. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism the plans being made to commemorate Bloomsday on 13 June 2004, in view of the fact that it is the 100th anniversary; the plans for the special Bloomsday Breakfast that will take place on O'Connell Street, Dublin; the efforts being made to promote Bloomsday as an important day; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Costello. [10653/04]

168. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism if the guidelines on best practise for commissioning artwork for all public bodies was published, as promised, by the end of 2003; and if so, the feedback there has been regarding the implications of same. — Eamon Ryan. [10613/04]

169. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism the reason the proposed Beautiful Night concert involving Irish and international musicians, which was to be held in O'Connell Street, Dublin, on 1 May 2004, has been cancelled; the alternative being planned; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jack Wall. [10643/04]

170. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism the position in regard to developing state of the art sports facilities at the Abbotstown site in view of the recent decision to locate the national stadium at Lansdowne Road; the latest meetings the Minister has had with sporting bodies regarding the use of future facilities at Abbotstown; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Burton. [10636/04]

171. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism when he will announce the capital sports grants 2004; the number of applications received per county; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairi Quinn. [10641/04]

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**CEISTEANNA LE hAGHAIDH FREAGRAÍ SCRÍOFA**  
**QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER**

*Chun an Taoisigh: To the Taoiseach.*

\*172. To ask the Taoiseach the position regarding the Northern Ireland talks. — Finian McGrath. [10444/04]

\*173. To ask the Taoiseach when he plans to initiate discussions with the social partners in relation to a successor to Sustaining Progress; and his objectives for the negotiations. — Richard Bruton. [9065/04]

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

\*174. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the actions she is taking to deal with the issue of high insurance costs for young drivers; the position regarding same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Charlie O'Connor. [10530/04]

\*175. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the schemes of financial support which are available to start-up businesses that wish to expand employment in the area of domestic marketable services such as heating and plumbing; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [10549/04]

\*176. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment her views on complaints from Irish entrepreneurs that they are being undercut in tendering competitions by non EU companies in which labour is provided by workforces from the home countries of those companies at well below market costs here; and if Irish minimum wages also apply to such workers. — Thomas P. Broughan. [10565/04]

\*177. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the criteria for a US citizen to gain employment here, whose partner is an Irish citizen; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [10567/04]

\*178. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment when a work permit will issue in the case of a person (details supplied) in County Kildare, a parent of whom is also resident and employed in County Kildare since 2002; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [10574/04]

\*179. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if the failure of the Competition Authority to bring a prosecution relating to an alleged cartel of wholesale suppliers of packaged beer and soft drinks was attributable to delay within the Competition Authority in which files on the matter lay dormant for well over a year; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Phil Hogan. [10675/04]

\*180. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if the Competition Authority should provide the public with details of compromises or arrangements reached by the authority with a vested interest relating to potential proceedings or a prosecution; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Phil Hogan. [10676/04]

\*181. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the reason the expected announcement of the tender for Comerana, Castlecomer, County Kilkenny, has been delayed; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Phil Hogan. [10682/04]

\*182. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment her plans, in view of the case of a company (details supplied) in Dublin, to review the requirement for Garda clearance for applicants for a licence to operate an employment agency in order to extend this requirement to all directors of such companies; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [10736/04]

\*183. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment the reason she has instructed that no letters of clarification be issued from her Department into the public domain, confirming that at the time of allegations of misappropriation of funds, including grants from her Department, being made against the general secretary of a non-Governmental organisation (details supplied), her Department had on file documentary evidence to the contrary; the reason, despite repeated requests from the person concerned to her Department, she has maintained this blockade; the action she proposes to take to rectify this situation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairi Quinn. [10738/04]

\*184. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment if her attention has been drawn to concerns expressed at the implication for the safety of workers of the importation of significant amounts of enriched ammonium nitrate blends of fertilisers from outside the EU; if she has satisfied herself that all appropriate safety procedures are in place and that labelling requirements are being complied with, especially in view of concerns that have been expressed that such materials could, in certain

circumstances, explode; if she has further satisfied herself that the attention of workers handling such materials has been drawn to the potential dangers; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [10740/04]

\*185. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment her views on whether a restriction can apply to a person holding a migrant working permit, who has been a resident here for more than six months, from standing as a candidate in the local elections in June 2004. — Eamon Ryan. [10742/04]

\*186. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment further to Parliamentary Question No. 204 of 24 February 2004, if there has been further progress in relation to the site in question; if agreement has been reached in relation to same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Emmet Stagg. [10766/04]

\*187. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment further to Parliamentary Question No. 4 of 21 March 2002 in relation to the examination by her officials and their consultations with the Attorney General's office, if she will report on their findings in relation to the groups of Irish meat plants being controlled by a company (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Liz McManus. [10912/04]

\*188. To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment further to Parliamentary Question No 4 of 21 March 2002, if she has satisfied herself that the companies in question are no longer controlled from Liechtenstein; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Liz McManus. [10913/04]

*Chun an Aire Cosanta: To the Minister for Defence.*

\*189. To ask the Minister for Defence if a feasibility study has been undertaken to assess the possibility of converting St. Bricin's Military Hospital to use as a civilian step-down facility; the present bed capacity of St. Bricins; the present inpatient occupancy rate of its capacity; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [10546/04]

\*190. To ask the Minister for Defence if recruits in the Armed Forces are provided with all clothing necessary for the carrying out of their duties by his Department; if recruits have to pay for some items of clothing; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jack Wall. [10758/04]

\*191. To ask the Minister for Defence the reason the pharmacy on the Curragh is closed; when it will re-open; the arrangements in place to service the needs of the residents while it is closed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Power. [10759/04]

\*192. To ask the Minister for Defence the implications for Defence spending in the State of the establishment of the EU Armaments Agency agreed in November 2003; if the cost projections have been done, including the expected costs to the Exchequer; if so, if he will report on the results; if not, when they will be done; and if they will be published. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [10908/04]

*Chun an Aire Talmhaíochta agus Bia: To the Minister for Agriculture and Food.*

\*193. To ask the Minister for Agriculture and Food the position in relation to the pre-2000 early retirement scheme from farming; if a person who let their land for two years for a nine month period each year will still be eligible to receive the early retirement

scheme once they had applied under this scheme in view of the fact that it was in 1999; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Olwyn Enright. [10473/04]

\*194. To ask the Minister for Agriculture and Food if moneys will be made available for forest roads in view of the recent budgetary increase for forestry investment; if so, the criteria for qualification for same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Martin Brady. [10496/04]

\*195. To ask the Minister for Agriculture and Food the reason cattle subsidies under the 10 and 22 month schemes have ceased to be awarded to a person (details supplied) in County Tipperary; and if these subsidies will be granted to this person. — Tom Hayes. [10513/04]

\*196. To ask the Minister for Agriculture and Food if he will consider the case of a person (details supplied) in County Galway; if his attention has been drawn to the fact that this person organised the sale of their entire herd of cows in spring 2003 but was prevented from doing so as a result of an unofficial strike at his Department's district office in Galway; his views on whether the circumstances were outside the control of this person; if a sizeable additional allocation of milk quota will be made available in the circumstances; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Connaughton. [10576/04]

\*197. To ask the Minister for Agriculture and Food if forestry payment will issue to a person (details supplied) in County Kerry; and the reason these payments have not been made in view of the fact that they were promised by the end of March 2004. — Gerard Murphy. [10667/04]

\*198. To ask the Minister for Agriculture and Food the action he is taking to address the issues which have been raised regarding the impact which the mid term review of Agenda 2000 will have on the rights of participants of the early retirement scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [10668/04]

\*199. To ask the Minister for Agriculture and Food when he will finalise a scheme to tackle the problem of sheep scrapie disease; when he will be introducing a compensation programme to remove the infected animals; and the number of animals and flocks notified with the disease. — Phil Hogan. [10677/04]

\*200. To ask the Minister for Agriculture and Food if he has plans to tighten up animal welfare laws in view of the recent serious cases of abuse revealed by a television programme (details supplied) and by ISPCA; and the nature of the protections under existing law with regard to deer hunting, dog farming and fur farming. — Richard Bruton. [10717/04]

\*201. To ask the Minister for Agriculture and Food if he will take steps to allocate the correct number of years of service to a person (details supplied) in County Westmeath; the reason this person's years of service have been left one and a half years short; if same will be properly computed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie Penrose. [10776/04]

*Chun an Aire Airgeadais: To the Minister for Finance.*

\*202. To ask the Minister for Finance his proposals to treat all families, whether married or otherwise, equally in the tax laws; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian O'Shea. [10453/04]

\*203. To ask the Minister for Finance the number of new vehicles registered in the first three months of 2004; the way in which this compares with previous years; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Power. [10552/04]

\*204. To ask the Minister for Finance if, in view of the recent continued and unexpectedly high oil prices, he will make a statement on the impact of these prices on growth rates here; and his views on estimates of international research bodies and media regarding this matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [10560/04]

\*205. To ask the Minister for Finance if his Department has statistics on the amount of income tax paid by those aged over 65; and the proportion this amount represents of total income tax over the 1999 to 2003 period. — Thomas P. Broughan. [10561/04]

\*206. To ask the Minister for Finance the use it is proposed to make of the vacant social welfare office block at Quay Road, Dungloe, County Donegal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eamon Gilmore. [10620/04]

\*207. To ask the Minister for Finance if the claim for incapacitated child allowance will be reassessed for a person (details supplied) in County Sligo in view of the extenuating medical circumstances and the additional medical problems in the family; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Perry. [10693/04]

\*208. To ask the Minister for Finance the position in relation to reports required to progress the flood alleviation measures in the Ardclough and Leixlip areas of County Kildare; if funding is available in 2004 to assist in the preparation of the required reports and in respect of the actual flood alleviation works required; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emmet Stagg. [10762/04]

\*209. To ask the Minister for Finance if the revised schedule of works for Lucan Demesne has been agreed and submitted to his Department; if same has been approved; the cost of the works; the funding being made available in each year for the works; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emmet Stagg. [10763/04]

*Chun an Aire Gnóthaí Eachtracha: To the Minister for Foreign Affairs.*

\*210. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs the position regarding the talks dealing with a new EU Constitutional Treaty; if this will lead eventually to a United States of Europe; and the effect this will have on the Irish Constitution. — Finian McGrath. [10443/04]

\*211. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if he will review the case of a person (details supplied) employed at the Cork Passport Office, who wishes to apply for a permanent position, but who has been refused an interview; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Kathleen Lynch. [10760/04]

\*212. To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs if US Special Forces were aboard flights landing in Shannon Airport on 27 and 28 March 2004; the steps he has taken to verify that there were no arms on board the US Marine Corps C-130 Hercules that landed at Casement Aerodrome, Baldonnell, on 29-30 March 2004; the content of the cargo reportedly removed from the aircraft; and the steps he has taken in response to the flying of the Jolly Roger flag by this foreign military aircraft. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [10914/04]

*Chun an Aire Oideachais agus Eolaíochta: To the Minister for Education and Science.*

\*213. To ask the Minister for Education and Science if he will consider the appointment of a full time resource teacher to a school (details supplied) in County Roscommon; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Carey. [10445/04]

\*214. To ask the Minister for Education and Science if ownership of the property of a school (details supplied) in County Kilkenny, can be transferred to Castlecomer Enterprise Group. — Phil Hogan. [10446/04]

\*215. To ask the Minister for Education and Science if extra resource hours will be allocated to persons (details supplied) in County Kilkenny; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Phil Hogan. [10447/04]

\*216. To ask the Minister for Education and Science the reason Mountmellick has been included in the pilot education project for County Laois with the Mountrath area; the objective of the project; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Olwyn Enright. [10472/04]

\*217. To ask the Minister for Education and Science the reason the school transport problem affecting many of the students attending a school (details supplied) in County Cork, has not been resolved; the further reason the solution of a common catchment area, which was proposed some years ago, has not been adopted; and if his attention has been drawn to the huge continuing hardship to a large number of parents and students arising from the failure to resolve the problem. — Jim O’Keeffe. [10485/04]

\*218. To ask the Minister for Education and Science if he will report on the most recent review of the school transport section in relation to catchment areas. — Dan Neville. [10491/04]

\*219. To ask the Minister for Education and Science the status of a building project required at a school (details supplied) in County Kilkenny; the stage the project is at; and if it can be expedited. — John McGuinness. [10492/04]

\*220. To ask the Minister for Education and Science if, further to correspondence (details supplied), he will address the issue concerned; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [10503/04]

\*221. To ask the Minister for Education and Science the reason for the delay in providing a leaving certificate curriculum in technology; when the matter will be addressed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emmet Stagg. [10507/04]

\*222. To ask the Minister for Education and Science if a school (details supplied) in County Kerry, will be designated a disadvantaged school; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jimmy Deenihan. [10510/04]

\*223. To ask the Minister for Education and Science if, when the National Education Psychological Service recommends that a child needs, following assessment by NEPS, a certain number of resource hours allocation, his Department will take steps to ensure that the allocation is made available; if his attention has been drawn to the instances in which NEPS recommendations have not been followed due to monetary and staffing resource shortages; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [10511/04]

\*224. To ask the Minister for Education and Science if school transport or grants towards the cost of school transport will be arranged as a matter of urgency in the case of persons (details supplied) in County Kilkenny who are attending a school (details supplied) in County Kilkenny; and if a response will be given in view of the exceptional circumstances of the case. — John McGuinness. [10515/04]

\*225. To ask the Minister for Education and Science if his attention has been drawn to the fact that Dublin City Council is reserving a site for a school (details supplied) in Dublin 9 as part of a larger public private partnership, but is threatened by the failure of his Department to confirm whether it has made provision to purchase the site from the estimates 2004; and the position regarding same in view of the fact that there is no risk of an adverse move in the price as a result of a clear commitment from his Department. — Richard Bruton. [10548/04]

\*226. To ask the Minister for Education and Science when funding will be sanctioned for an extension to a school (details supplied) in County Mayo; the stage the process is at; and when works will commence on the building. — Michael Ring. [10554/04]

\*227. To ask the Minister for Education and Science when funding will be sanctioned for an extension to a school (details supplied) in County Mayo; the stage the process is at; and when works will commence on the building. — Michael Ring. [10555/04]

\*228. To ask the Minister for Education and Science when he will give the information promised in his reply to Parliamentary Question No. 235 of 10 February 2004 (details supplied); the reason for the delay in responding; if he will respond and accede to the request for nine hours tuition per week; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [10556/04]

\*229. To ask the Minister for Education and Science if, in progressing the provision of a new primary school at Nurney, County Kildare, he will have regard to the fact that €130,000 was raised locally for the purchase of a site; and if he will accordingly waive the need for further local financial contribution. — Seán Ó Fearghaíl. [10579/04]

\*230. To ask the Minister for Education and Science if a remote area boarding grant for a person (details supplied) in County Kildare wishing to attend a school (details supplied), will be approved in view of the fact that this person cannot readily access a school (details supplied) in County Dublin, due to the fact that their home is 20 miles away and not on a direct bus route. — Seán Ó Fearghaíl. [10580/04]

\*231. To ask the Minister for Education and Science the situation in relation to the proposed educate together school for the Ongar and Clonee area; if his will give the school the go-ahead; and when the school can expect to operate. — Joan Burton. [10581/04]

\*232. To ask the Minister for Education and Science if his attention has been drawn to the serious concerns being expressed by parents in relation to the availability of places at a school (details supplied) in Dublin 15, for September 2004 and September 2005, and the number of children who may not obtain places in the school; when the permanent building will proceed; and the number of children the school is expected to cater for. — Joan Burton. [10582/04]

\*233. To ask the Minister for Education and Science the position regarding an application for resource teaching for a person (details supplied) in County Galway; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Connaughton. [10583/04]

\*234. To ask the Minister for Education and Science when a person (details supplied) in County Louth will obtain a place at a school (details supplied) in County Louth. — Arthur Morgan. [10584/04]

\*235. To ask the Minister for Education and Science the schools which the Minister of State for Youth Affairs has visited and intends to visit to discuss young people and politics; the matters raised; the actions the Minister of State intends to take as a result of these meetings; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — David Stanton. [10655/04]

\*236. To ask the Minister for Education and Science if additional funds for a school (details supplied) will be provided to improve the quality of the drinking water in the school; if funding will be available for insulation in the school building to provide the installation of a trip switch in the electrical mains in the school and to allow the roof to be repaired and the ceiling replaced; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Bruton. [10656/04]

\*237. To ask the Minister for Education and Science the number of primary, post primary and special needs pupils availing of the school transport service in each year from and including 1996 to 1997, for each group; the cost of the service in each year; the parental contribution in each year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [10669/04]

\*238. To ask the Minister for Education and Science the position in relation to an extension for a school (details supplied) in County Donegal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cecilia Keaveney. [10673/04]

\*239. To ask the Minister for Education and Science if and when he will meet with the Dún Laoghaire branch of the TUI, as requested, in relation to the capping of student numbers in the further education sector and the implementation of the recommendations of the McIver Report. — Jan O'Sullivan. [10674/04]

\*240. To ask the Minister for Education and Science his proposals to reform the points system in regard to the points required for the higher diploma in education course by granting more points for teaching experience; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian O'Shea. [10718/04]

\*241. To ask the Minister for Education and Science when sanction will be given to a school (details supplied) in County Cork, to go ahead with works to build staff and visitor toilet facilities under the improvement works scheme. — Gerard Murphy. [10719/04]

\*242. To ask the Minister for Education and Science the reason behind his Department's decision to allocate €250,000 to a school (details supplied) in County Cork, in view of the fact that the new school, as had been promised, will now cost in the region of €750,000 and in view of matters (details supplied). — Gerard Murphy. [10720/04]

\*243. To ask the Minister for Education and Science the position in connection with the proposal to amalgamate a school (details supplied) in Dublin 24; if the school authorities in question have brought this matter to his attention to date; his views on such a proposal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [10721/04]

\*244. To ask the Minister for Education and Science the number of students participating in PLC courses in County Kildare in the academic year 2003/2004. — Seán Ó Fearghaíl. [10722/04]

\*245. To ask the Minister for Education and Science if it is the intention of his Department to cap the number of participants in PLC programmes for 2004/2005; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Ó Fearghaíl. [10723/04]

\*246. To ask the Minister for Education and Science the position regarding a school (details supplied) in County Cork; and the date that a review (details supplied) will take place. — Gerard Murphy. [10747/04]

\*247. To ask the Minister for Education and Science the reason he has capped the number of PLC student places for each school college for 2003/2004; if his attention has been drawn to the negative effects this capping will have on courses and on educational opportunities for some of the most vulnerable members of society; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Costello. [10748/04]

\*248. To ask the Minister for Education and Science if his attention has been drawn to a proposal to amalgamate two primary schools (details supplied) in Dublin 24; his views on this proposal; the process which will be followed; the rights which parents have in the matter; if his approval for an ultimate amalgamation will be necessary; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [10749/04]

\*249. To ask the Minister for Education and Science further to Parliamentary Question No, 317 of 24 February 2004, if he will answer the questions originally posed; if he will not visit the school, will he direct an inspector from his Department to investigate the issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emmet Stagg. [10764/04]

\*250. To ask the Minister for Education and Science the applications on hand from a school (details supplied) in County Kildare, in respect of grant aid for furniture and equipment; the details of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emmet Stagg. [10767/04]

\*251. To ask the Minister for Education and Science the action being taken by the OPW in relation to actively seeking the acquisition of a site for the new school to replace a school (details supplied) in County Kildare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emmet Stagg. [10768/04]

\*252. To ask the Minister for Education and Science if agreement has been reached in relation to the provision of additional accommodation at a school (details supplied) in County Kildare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emmet Stagg. [10769/04]

\*253. To ask the Minister for Education and Science the number of educational psychologists needed to be employed by the NEPS to ensure that all primary school children receive a service which they require; the number of net new educational psychologists which will be employed in 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emmet Stagg. [10770/04]

\*254. To ask the Minister for Education and Science if a costing has been estimated on the required extension to a school (details supplied) in County Kildare; if so, the amount involved; if the project can be included for consideration for funding from the secondary contingency fund if funds are available and unspent and from sums which might not be expended from the secondary sites fund; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emmet Stagg. [10773/04]

\*255. To ask the Minister for Education and Science if and when he will respond to the application for emergency funding for a school (details supplied) in County Donegal

to install a lift for a person (details supplied) who uses a wheelchair and whose class will be situated upstairs next year; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jan O'Sullivan. [10887/04]

\*256. To ask the Minister for Education and Science if his attention has been drawn to the appalling conditions (details supplied) that staff and pupils of a school (details supplied) in County Donegal have had to endure over the past number of years; and the action he proposes to take to resolve this disgraceful situation. — Seán Crowe. [10898/04]

\*257. To ask the Minister for Education and Science if his Department will provide school transport for persons (details supplied) in County Leitrim on the new route proposed by Bus Éireann to his Department four months ago. — John Ellis. [10900/04]

\*258. To ask the Minister for Education and Science the steps being taken to provide a resource teacher to help with the needs of a person (details supplied) in County Monaghan; when the service will be provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seymour Crawford. [10901/04]

*Chun an Aire Cumarsáide, Mara agus Acmhainní Nádurtha: To the Minister for Communications, Marine and Natural Resources.*

\*259. To ask the Minister for Communications, Marine and Natural Resources the reason 800 An Post workers are still suspended; and the action he is taking to resolve this dispute. — Joe Higgins. [10514/04]

\*260. To ask the Minister for Communications, Marine and Natural Resources if he has received a request from a club (details supplied) for the lease of a small premises at Howth harbour in order to store its equipment; the position in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Haughey. [10577/04]

\*261. To ask the Minister for Communications, Marine and Natural Resources further to Parliamentary Question No, 99 of 25 March 2004, the policing measures that are in place on Carlingford Lough in relation to aquaculture; the measures that are proposed to prevent unauthorised shellfish removals; and when these will be implemented. — Arthur Morgan. [10578/04]

\*262. To ask the Minister for Communications, Marine and Natural Resources if, in view of the worsening employment position at Killybegs fishing port, County Donegal, arising out of new regulations in regard to the times for landings of fish, he will consider reviewing the regulations in regard to the times; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eamon Gilmore. [10619/04]

*Chun an Aire Ealaíon, Spóirt agus Turasóireachta: To the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism.*

\*263. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism if he will approve the contract documents for the refurbishment of a swimming pool (details supplied) in County Kildare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emmet Stagg. [10508/04]

\*264. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism if he will allocate funding under a lottery grant for a club (details supplied) in County Mayo. — Michael Ring. [10553/04]

\*265. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism the number of bodies or agencies which report directly to him or his Department or are funded by him; the degree to which

they are influenced by his Department in regard to policy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [10877/04]

\*266. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism if he expects to be in a position to offer grant aid or other financial assistance to voluntary groups or agencies in 2004 from proceeds of the National Lottery; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [10878/04]

\*267. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism if it is his policy to promote any particular forms of Art in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [10879/04]

\*268. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism the position in regard to the future of lands at Abbotstown; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [10881/04]

\*269. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism the progress in the implementation of his Department's decentralisation programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [10882/04]

\*270. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism his expectations for the tourist industry in 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [10883/04]

\*271. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism if he has satisfied himself regarding the competitiveness of the tourist industry here; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [10884/04]

\*272. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism the progress in relation to the provision of National stadia with the objective of meeting all foreseeable requirements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [10886/04]

\*273. To ask the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism the discussions he has had with the various sporting bodies with a view to ensuring the provision of adequate stadium space to meet the needs of all sporting bodies in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [10907/04]

*Chun an Aire Sláinte agus Leanaí: To the Minister for Health and Children.*

\*274. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the number of persons waiting for orthodontic treatment; the reasons for the long delay in providing such treatment; his plans to eliminate this waiting time; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [10462/04]

\*275. To ask the Minister for Health and Children his plans to replace an orthodontist in Merlin Park Hospital; and the number of staff employed in the orthodontic treatment department in Galway. — Michael Ring. [10463/04]

\*276. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the position of a person (details supplied) in County Mayo on the orthodontic treatment waiting list; when they will be called for treatment; and if they can be sent for treatment under the National Treatment Purchase Fund. — Michael Ring. [10464/04]

\*277. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if the full file held by the Western Health Board in respect of a person (details supplied) in County Mayo can be made available to this person's family; when the family can expect to receive a copy of same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jerry Cowley. [10465/04]

\*278. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the funding provided by his Department for the hospital refurbishment in Birr, County Offaly; the number of beds available in the hospital; the number of employees in the hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jack Wall. [10466/04]

\*279. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if Statutory Instrument No. 90 of 2004 (details supplied) will be implemented; and the effect the Statutory Instrument will have on the Health Act 1970. — Joe Sherlock. [10467/04]

\*280. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if arrangements will be made for a person (details supplied) in County Donegal to be admitted to the National Rehabilitation Centre in Dún Laoghaire. — Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin. [10481/04]

\*281. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if the status of practising physical therapists will be maintained in legislation being prepared for the regulation and supervision of the health and social care professions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paudge Connolly. [10482/04]

\*282. To ask the Minister for Health and Children further to Parliamentary Question No. 361 of 10 February 2004, if a response to the query will be expedited. — John McGuinness. [10495/04]

\*283. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the average number of patients listed for long-term care for each of the past five years; and the most up-to-date statistics for this year in hospitals (details supplied). — Paul McGrath. [10504/04]

\*284. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the waiting period that exists at Mullingar General Hospital for children to be attended to in the ears, nose and throat clinic; the number of children who are on this waiting list; and the action he proposes to take to alleviate the unacceptable delays. — Paul McGrath. [10506/04]

\*285. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the reason for the delay in arranging an appointment for a person (details supplied) in County Kilkenny at St. Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny; if an appointment for them with a paediatrician will be expedited; if there is a waiting list for such a service; the steps he is taking to resolve the issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [10520/04]

\*286. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the reason for the delay in having a cataract removed in the case of a person (details supplied) in County Kilkenny; the reason the operation promised in January 2004 has been postponed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [10521/04]

\*287. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if a bed can be provided at Castlecomer Hospital, Kilkenny for a person (details supplied) in County Kilkenny in view of the exceptional circumstances of their case. — John McGuinness. [10522/04]

\*288. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the reason for the delay in providing a bed at St. Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny, for a person (details supplied) in County Kilkenny; if this person's case can be expedited in view of the urgency of the matter and of the case

being made by their general practitioner; and the action he is taking to reduce the waiting list in this area. — John McGuinness. [10523/04]

\*289. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if an application for a medical card in the case of a person (details supplied) in County Kilkenny will be expedited. — John McGuinness. [10532/04]

\*290. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the breakdown by health board of the spending on suicide prevention and research in 2002, 2003 and 2004. — Dan Neville. [10533/04]

\*291. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the percentage of the health budget for 2004 which is allocated to the psychiatric services. — Dan Neville. [10534/04]

\*292. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if, in view of the shortage of nursing staff and the limited intake for student nursing placement in the State, there is assistance available to students to complete nurse training courses in Britain. — Dan Neville. [10535/04]

\*293. To ask the Minister for Health and Children his plans for the appointment of a second consultant rheumatologist to the Western Health Board; if his attention has been drawn to the fact that there is a four year waiting list for arthritis services in the Western Health Board area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Padraic McCormack. [10536/04]

\*294. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the criteria used by the health boards in the appointment of persons to co-ordinate the home help services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gay Mitchell. [10539/04]

\*295. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if a feasibility study has been undertaken to assess the possibility of converting St. Bricin's Military Hospital to use as a civilian step-down facility; the present bed capacity of St. Bricins; the present inpatient occupancy rate of its capacity; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [10547/04]

\*296. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the budget devoted by each health board to staff training; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fiona O'Malley. [10589/04]

\*297. To ask the Minister for Health and Children when orthodontic treatment will be made available to a person (details supplied) in County Limerick. — Dan Neville. [10590/04]

\*298. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the entry requirements for courses for a higher diploma in nursing care; his views on the concern among many nurses with substantial experience, whose initial qualification did not involve a course at degree level, who fear that their opportunity to progress to higher training levels will be prejudiced; and if he will introduce arrangements whereby an accreditation system gives equal recognition to practical experience for the purposes of access to higher qualifications. — Richard Bruton. [10591/04]

\*299. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if he has developed a national plan for access to acute services by children; his views on whether, in this context, it is desirable

that Beaumont Hospital should develop its own accident and emergency department for children; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [10592/04]

\*300. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if long term residential care can be provided to a person (details supplied) in Dublin 12. — Mary Upton. [10593/04]

\*301. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if a medical card will be granted to a person (details supplied) in County Louth. — Arthur Morgan. [10594/04]

\*302. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if he has received an assessment of the need for residential places with intellectual disability in the Fingal area; if, in drafting his proposals for allocating capital funds, he has taken account of the outstanding needs that have been identified in the Fingal area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [10599/04]

\*303. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if special funding will be made available to provide facilities for a person (details supplied) at Rathfreda Cheshire Home, Newcastle West, County Limerick. — Dan Neville. [10600/04]

\*304. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if he will outline the EU Directives on the treatment of mental illness and the promotion of mental health. — Dan Neville. [10601/04]

\*305. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the amount paid by the SEHB to non-medical consultants in each year since 2002; if past employees of the SEHB are retained as consultants; if so, the qualifications and expertise of same and the purpose of their consultancy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [10678/04]

\*306. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the reason there is no funding available for a computer for a person (details supplied) in County Mayo who has a learning disability. — Jerry Cowley. [10684/04]

\*307. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the steps he is taking to raise the public's attention to the need for supporting organ donation and transplantation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Perry. [10692/04]

\*308. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the situation with regard to public health nurses at local and national level (details supplied); his plans to change this situation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Perry. [10694/04]

\*309. To ask the Minister for Health and Children his views on the timescale for the discontinuance of the derogation on the introduction of a Pharmacy Act (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Perry. [10695/04]

\*310. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if he will consider appointing a representative of the Community Midwives or a parent to the National Expert Group on home births. — Olivia Mitchell. [10696/04]

\*311. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the funding provided to each of the health boards for the development of palliative care services in 2002, 2003 and 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian O'Shea. [10697/04]

\*312. To ask the Minister for Health and Children further to Parliamentary Question No. 363 of 30 March 2004, the way in which he will ensure equality of access for persons requiring palliative care services, including radiotherapy, living long distances from Dublin, Cork and Galway; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian O'Shea. [10698/04]

\*313. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if the Mortell Report has been officially published; his views on its findings; and the steps in relation to the future of pharmacies here. — Fiona O'Malley. [10725/04]

\*314. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if the cat scan at St. Luke's is out of order; if so, the length of time it has been so; the cost to have it repaired and the timeframe involved; the locations to which patients are being referred to during this time; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [10726/04]

\*315. To ask the Minister for Health and Children his views on efforts by local communities in the Mid-Western Health Board and South Eastern Health Board region to try and raise funding to provide a local radiotherapy service; if he will intervene should he oppose these initiatives, if it is on grounds of unavailability of financial resources; if it is due to the recommendations of the radiotherapy group authors; and if so, his views on private radiotherapy units in hospitals here at present in view of the fact that the proposed units in the mid-west are equal in status to these units. — Liam Twomey. [10729/04]

\*316. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the reason breast screening, including BreastCheck, is not integrated into the regional centre at Waterford Regional Hospital. — Liam Twomey. [10739/04]

\*317. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if he will provide a progress report on the new health centre and health board offices in Ballymun which have been lying idle since February 2003; if his attention has been drawn to the fact that local general practitioners based in the existing health centre are unable to complete a dual agreement with the RCSI for general practitioner training and research due to inadequate space; when he will give approval for the fitting out of the new premises; when he will give approval for the payment of the rental purchase agreement, including the one year's arrears; and in view of the deplorable conditions in the existing health centre, when he expects the new facility to be operational. — Róisín Shortall. [10756/04]

\*318. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the guidelines in place to protect the rights of persons who have in the past donated blood; if, after not donating for a number of years, the persons names are removed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [10757/04]

\*319. To ask the Minister for Health and Children further to Parliamentary Question No. 408 of 24 February 2004, the full compliment of beds now in use in the Maynooth community care unit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emmet Stagg. [10765/04]

\*320. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if he will meet a delegation from Charleville and District Handicapped Association to discuss its projected deficit of €818,000 for 2004. — Gerard Murphy. [10775/04]

\*321. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the reason a person (details supplied) in County Cork has been refused a medical card by the SHB despite suffering a heart attack and incurring a drugs bill of €360 per month. — Bernard Allen. [10831/04]

\*322. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if his attention has been drawn to the fact that the Rape Crisis Centre does not deal with rape victims under the age of 18; and resources available to such victims, especially in the area of provision of counselling. — Seán Crowe. [10899/04]

\*323. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the steps he intends to take to ensure that a person (details supplied) in County Westmeath is immediately admitted to Beaumont Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie Penrose. [10906/04]

\*324. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the person who decided that the place of residence of the accident and emergency consultants appointed to Clonmel, Kilkenny and Wexford General Hospitals should be Waterford when these consultants will provide the majority of their sessional work (details supplied) in the three hospitals mentioned; and if he will intervene in this vital service for the counties of Wexford, Carlow - Kilkenny and Tipperary. — Liam Twomey. [10915/04]

*Chun an Aire Iompair: To the Minister for Transport.*

\*325. To ask the Minister for Transport if he intends to impose restrictions on heavy goods vehicles going through residential areas at night due to the high noise levels; if legislation can be used by local authorities to restrict such movements; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Gormley. [10449/04]

\*326. To ask the Minister for Transport the progress which has been made in his discussions with the trade unions in Aer Rianta regarding the protection of the tenure and conditions of employment of its workers in the context of the three new independent airport authorities which he proposes; and if his commitment deals with the contingency that one of the airports might experience poorer trading conditions than he envisages. — Richard Bruton. [10610/04]

\*327. To ask the Minister for Transport if he has completed his funding review of the South Westmeath Rural Transport Association; the additional funding provided to the association to reinstate the service to south Roscommon; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [10671/04]

\*328. To ask the Minister for Transport the proposals he has for making the wearing of bicycle safety helmets, for children and adults, a legal requirement and put on a statutory basis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairi Quinn. [10727/04]

\*329. To ask the Minister for Transport if the free transport facility available to pensioners in respect of CIE run services will also apply to LUAS services. — Olivia Mitchell. [10728/04]

\*330. To ask the Minister for Transport further to parliamentary Question No. 430 of 17 February 2004, the outcome of the discussions between his Department and the Society of the Irish Motor Industry in relation to the proposed changeover to metric values for speed measurement by 31 December 2004; and the proposals he has as a result of these discussions. — Róisín Shortall. [10761/04]

\*331. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Iompair an bhfuil sé i gceist aige cúiteamh a thabhairt dóibh siúd a ndearnadh leatrom orthu ó thaobh a gcearta teanga agus a gcearta Bunreachtúla nuair a diúltaíodh teistiméireacht NCT a thabhairt dóibh de thairbhe a gcomharthaí tacsáí a bheith sa “príomhtheanga oifigiúil“ agus go raibh orthu an scrúdú

gluaisteáin a dhéanamh athuair agus comharthaí úra a fháil dá réir, rud a chuir costas breise orthu de bharr an Stát a bheith ag brú an Bhéarla orthu. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [10832/04]

\*332. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Iompair cé na céimeanna atá sé a ghlacadh chun a chinntiú nach ndiúltofar testiméireacht do ghluaisteáin a bhfuil an focal TACSAÍ in airde orthu agus cé na céimeanna atá sé a ghlacadh chun a chinntiú go bhfuil an Ghaeilge ar chomhchéim nó chun tosaigh mar is léir ón mBunreacht agus sa reachtaíocht agus i rialacháin eile a bhaineann lena Roinn. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [10833/04]

\*333. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Iompair an bhfuil ceangal le feiscint idir aoiseanna na ngluaisteán agus na gluaisteáin a bhfuil ag teip orthu testiméireacht a bhaint amach ó na hionaid NCT, an bhféadfaidh sé iad a liostáil agus an céadatán atá i gceist a chur in iúl. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [10834/04]

\*334. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Iompair cad é an líon gluaisteán ar diúltaíodh testiméireacht dóibh in Ionaid Tástála NCT na tíre agus na fáthanna éagsúla ar diúltaíodh sin dóibh de réir gach bliana atá an scéim i bhfeidhm. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [10835/04]

\*335. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Iompair cad é an líon gluaisteán ar diúltaíodh teistiméireacht dóibh in Ionaid Tástála NCT na tíre de thairbhe go raibh an focal TACSAÍ acu ar a ngluaisteáin seachas an leagan Béarla TAXI arb é amháin atá ceadaithe faoin reachtaíocht chuí agus cén céadatán iad sin den iomlán ar diúltaíodh teistiméireacht dóibh do gach bliain ó bunaíodh an scéim. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [10836/04]

\*336. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Iompair De thairbhe gur fhógair an tAire Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta san Teach seo Dé Máirt an 9 Márta go mbeidh rialachán ag teacht chun cinn an mhí seo i dtaca le seasamh dlíthiúil don fhocal TACSAÍ, an bhfuil sé i gceist aige treoir a eisiúint do na foirne sna hIonaid Tástála NCT gan cloí leis an rial atá ann faoi láthair a choisceann aon leagan eile seachas an focal Béarla TAXI a bheith inghlactha chun teastas a bhaint amach do ghluaisteán. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [10837/04]

*Chun an Aire Dlí agus Cirt, Comhionannais agus Athchóirithe Dlí: To the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform.*

\*337. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform if dealings on a folio will be expedited for persons (details supplied) in County Mayo. — Michael Ring. [10459/04]

\*338. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform if he will review the decision to deport a person (details supplied) in Dublin 11 in view of the good work they are doing in the community; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Carey. [10461/04]

\*339. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform the number of secret agents that will accompany President Bush to Ireland in June 2004; the person who will have operational control of the agents during the visit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ciarán Cuffe. [10477/04]

\*340. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform if an application for family reunification will be expedited in the name of a person (details supplied) in County Dublin. — John McGuinness. [10490/04]

- \*341. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform if permission to remain in the State in the case of persons (details supplied) in County Kilkenny will be expedited. — John McGuinness. [10525/04]
- \*342. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform further to Parliamentary Question No. 510 of 23 March 2004, the reason a dealing number (details supplied) was dealt with in 2002. — Michael Ring. [10557/04]
- \*343. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform if his attention has been drawn to the article in a newspaper (details supplied); if his Department or the Gardaí, have information which confirms or denies the assertions made in the article; the extra security measures which have been taken arising from the article; if Garda contact has been made with the Spanish authorities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Costello. [10558/04]
- \*344. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform the status of asylum seekers resident here from the Czech Republic after the accession of that country to the EU in May 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jimmy Deenihan. [10657/04]
- \*345. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform the number of asylum seekers deported in the past 12 months; the numbers of each nationality; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [10670/04]
- \*346. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform if a visa will be granted to a person (details supplied). — Fergus O'Dowd. [10685/04]
- \*347. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform if he has received correspondence regarding the family law case of a person (details supplied) in County Cork. — Joe Higgins. [10707/04]
- \*348. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform his views on whether the case of a person (details supplied) in County Cork is a cause for concern and that legitimate questions may arise from this case regarding the impartiality of some judges and some members of the Garda Síochána. — Joe Higgins. [10708/04]
- \*349. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform if, following assurances given by his Department to a person (details supplied) in County Cork a care worker would ascertain their child's well-being in England, this was ever carried out. — Joe Higgins. [10709/04]
- \*350. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform if his attention has been drawn to the grant application in respect of the Castle Park Community Group, Enniscrone, County Sligo, for a childcare facility in west Sligo which would serve Enniscrone, Kilglass, Culeens, Castleconnor and Rathlee; if his attention has further been drawn to the fact that there is no childcare facility within a 10 mile radius of Enniscrone; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Perry. [10710/04]
- \*351. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform the cost of providing free legal aid in 2003; the number of persons who availed of the scheme in 2003 more than two times during the year; and the amount paid out in overtime to the legal profession providing free legal aid for court sittings that took place after 4pm. — Paul Kehoe. [10711/04]

\*352. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform the position in relation to the application for residency by a person (details supplied) in County Wexford who is the parent of an Irish-born child; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [10712/04]

\*353. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform the names, ages and former addresses here of the nationals deported on 31 March 2004; the number of deportation orders signed by him awaiting execution; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [10713/04]

\*354. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform if her attention has been drawn to concerns expressed at the security implications of the importation of significant amounts of enriched ammonium nitrate blends of fertilisers from outside the EU, especially in view of reports that such material has been used in terrorist bombings abroad; if, in view of the fact that the importation into Northern Ireland of such material has been banned by the authorities there on security grounds, he has plans to impose similar controls or restrictions in this jurisdiction; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [10741/04]

\*355. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform further to Parliamentary Question No. 425 of 10 February 2004, the position regarding the application by a person (details supplied) in County Kildare for naturalisation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jack Wall. [10753/04]

\*356. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform the position with regard to the education of unaccompanied minors living in hostel accommodation in Dun Laoghaire (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Olwyn Enright. [10754/04]

\*357. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform when residency will be granted to persons (details supplied) in County Dublin. — Paul Kehoe. [10755/04]

\*358. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform if he will reconsider his refusal to provide a 24 hour Garda station in north Kildare to serve the towns of Maynooth, Leixlip and Celbridge, in view of opportunities now presenting in terms of a site and shared service centre; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emmet Stagg. [10771/04]

\*359. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform if he will extend the powers of local authorities to enable them to enact by-laws preventing the drinking of alcohol in parks owned by community councils in the context of public order legislation. — Gerard Murphy. [10778/04]

\*360. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform the criteria and condition which a person from New Zealand who has lived here for the past five years, is in the course of purchasing a house here and is marrying an Irish girl, must satisfy in order to obtain a certificate of naturalisation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie Penrose. [10779/04]

\*361. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform if there has been consistent vandalism at St Killian's Junior and Senior School in Kingswood, Tallaght, Dublin 24 (details supplied). — Seán Crowe. [10891/04]

\*362. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform if he will report on his restructuring of the management of Shelton Abbey and Loughan House; and the person who is running these institutions. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [10893/04]

\*363. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform the results of the public consultation process undertaken by his Department with respect to the Garda Síochána Bill 2004; the persons and organisations from which submissions were received; if any of the recommendations received result in changes in the Bill's provisions; and if so, which. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [10894/04]

\*364. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform the Government's position on the EU Framework Decision on Combating Racism and Xenophobia; if the Government support the proposal; if not, the reasons therefor. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [10895/04]

\*365. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform if he will make a statement on the reports of the Prison Inspectorate with respect to Fort Michael, Wheatfield and Loughan House. — Aengus Ó Snodaigh. [10896/04]

\*366. To ask the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform the reason a person (details supplied) was refused a visa application renewal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [10897/04]

*Chun an Aire Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil: To the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.*

\*367. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government the status of the application for a sewerage scheme at Creggs, County Galway; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Connaughton. [10448/04]

\*368. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government the position regarding the provision of a new fire station at Lismore, County Waterford; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian O'Shea. [10450/04]

\*369. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government when the Greenhills Road, Tallaght, will be open in view of the fact that works on the development of same are complete; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Power. [10484/04]

\*370. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government the status of the application for the development of a sewerage scheme for the village of Creggs, County Galway; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [10487/04]

\*371. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government the steps he is taking to ensure that non-nationals can register to vote in Garda stations using their social welfare or GNIB identity card instead of their passports which are often held by the authorities or simply not available; if a standard procedure across the country will be adopted; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John McGuinness. [10488/04]

\*372. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government the number of polling stations in use in the constituency of Kerry South for the elections in June 2004; the number which are not fully accessible to persons with disabilities; if it is a

statutory requirement that public notice be given of a lack of access to a polling station in advance of an election; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Breeda Moynihan-Cronin. [10517/04]

\*373. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government the contacts he has had with regard to the threat posed by Sellafield; the position regarding same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Charlie O'Connor. [10531/04]

\*374. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government if he will respond to correspondence (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Denis Naughten. [10568/04]

\*375. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government the plans he has to regulate recruitment processes to ensure that prospective employers make the recruitment process transparent from the point of application in view of problems highlighted in the case of a position (details supplied); and if he will take the opportunity of the next bill in this general area to incorporate such provisions into legislation; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [10587/04]

\*376. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government if the funding has been made available to Cork City Council for the development of a new library at Bishopstown, Cork, which is to be located at the Wilton Shopping Centre. — Bernard Allen. [10597/04]

\*377. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government the progress which has been made on funding for a new fire engine for Aranmore Island, County Donegal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eamon Gilmore. [10618/04]

\*378. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government the safety guidelines in place for the operation of private and leisure centre swimming pools. — Mildred Fox. [10679/04]

\*379. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government if it is usual for the chairman of the County and City Managers Association to comment on the annual financial allocations; the statutory role of that organisation to do so; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Phil Hogan. [10681/04]

\*380. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government if he has plans for putting in place a long term financing system for local authorities to replace the gap that will eventually be created when development returns to normal levels and a consequential reduction in income from development levies takes effect. — John Bruton. [10683/04]

\*381. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government the position in relation to a social housing scheme application (details supplied) in County Donegal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cecilia Keaveney. [10691/04]

\*382. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government the position in relation to a social housing scheme application (details supplied) in County Donegal; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Cecilia Keaveney. [10714/04]

\*383. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government if his Department will consider pursuing a policy of buying churches and church lands that have

been put up for sale; if his Department has developed a policy in relation to the large number of churches and the large amount of church land coming on the market for sale; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Gormley. [10715/04]

\*384. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government his views on whether a restriction can apply to a person holding a migrant working permit, who has been a resident here for more than six months, from standing as a candidate in the local elections in June 2004. — Eamon Ryan. [10743/04]

\*385. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government the regulations or directives expected to come from the European Union with regard to the monitoring and abatement of noise levels in residential areas; the existing regulations which govern noise disturbance to residential areas from construction activity; and the agencies which are responsible for the monitoring and enforcement of such regulations. — Eamon Ryan. [10744/04]

\*386. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government if he has received proposals from Kildare County Council for the provision of a new fire station; if so, the location at which the Council proposes to build the fire station; if the proposed station is a three bay, four bay or five bay station; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emmet Stagg. [10745/04]

\*387. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government his views on the high charges being paid by a number of schools for the provision of water; the number of schools in the State that are being charged for water supply; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Olwyn Enright. [10746/04]

\*388. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government if he has received a request from Kildare County Council for additional special funding to carry out repairs to local roads in the environs of Straffan, County Kildare, in preparation for the Ryder Cup in 2006; if he will give early attention to the special request; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emmet Stagg. [10772/04]

\*389. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government the way in which local authorities are to meet their commitments under the benchmarking scheme for outdoor working staff; if same is being funded by his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie Penrose. [10904/04]

\*390. To ask the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government if he will report on the status of Westmeath County Council's provision of a new sewerage scheme at Castletown-Geoghegan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie Penrose. [10905/04]

*Chun an Aire Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta: To the Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.*

\*391. To ask the Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs the mechanism which he proposes will operate the new rural social scheme; and the way in which he proposes to allocate the 2500 places. — Fergus O'Dowd. [10479/04]

\*392. To ask the Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs the reason an application for dormant accounts funding from a community group (details supplied) in Dublin 10 was not considered; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mary Upton. [10480/04]

\*393. Chun a fhiafraí den Aire Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta an mbeidh airgead á chur ar fáil i mbliana le feabhsú a dhéanamh ar bhóthar contae ar Oileán Árann Mhór, Co. Dhún na nGall. — Eamon Gilmore. [10617/04]

\*394. To ask the Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs if ADM will extend the deadline for applications to allow the Matt Talbot Community Trust application (details supplied) to be considered in view of post and fax difficulties. — Gay Mitchell. [10689/04]

\*395. To ask the Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs if representatives from the community and voluntary sector will continue to sit on the board of ADM in view of the recent report by consultants (details supplied) on the working of the company; if not, the reason therefor; the persons who will replace these board members; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [10730/04]

\*396. To ask the Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs if he plans to ensure the continuance of community representation on local development groups and boards across the country; if not, if he intends to replace it with Government nominees; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Enda Kenny. [10731/04]

*Chun an Aire Gnóthaí Sóisialacha agus Teaghlaigh: To the Minister for Social and Family Affairs.*

\*397. To ask the Minister for Social and Family Affairs if supplementary welfare allowance will be awarded in the case of a person (details supplied) in County Kilkenny; and if an appeal will be arranged in view of the hardship of the case and the poor financial circumstances of the family. — John McGuinness. [10526/04]

\*398. To ask the Minister for Social and Family Affairs the number of defined benefit schemes which have been found to fall short of the minimum funding standard under the Pensions Act 1990; the proportion that this represents of all schemes that have been examined; the implications and advice which she can offer to members of pension schemes which have been found to fall short of the minimum funding standard; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Richard Bruton. [10604/04]

\*399. To ask the Minister for Social and Family Affairs if the regulations can be changed to allow an unemployed person to sign on for a portion of their benefit if they take a job that only offers two to three hours daily. — Gerard Murphy. [10732/04]

\*400. To ask the Minister for Social and Family Affairs the reason a person (details supplied) in County Kildare has had their rent support reduced when they received child dependant allowance in respect of their second child; if this is the normal practise; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [10733/04]

\*401. To ask the Minister for Social and Family Affairs the reason a person (details supplied) in County Kildare was refused clothing allowance for two of their children who are making their Confirmation and Communion; and if she will make a statement on the matter. — Jack Wall. [10750/04]

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CEISTEANNA, SEACHAS CEISTEANNA AR SONRAÍODH UAIN DÓIBH, I gCOMHAIR  
FREAGRA Ó BHÉAL DÉ CÉADAÓIN, 7 AIBREÁN, 2004  
QUESTIONS, OTHER THAN QUESTIONS NOMINATED FOR PRIORITY, FOR ORAL ANSWER  
ON WEDNESDAY, 7 APRIL, 2004

**Chun an Aire Sláinte agus Leanaí: To the Minister for Health and Children.**

1. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if he will make a statement on the number of projects which received funding since May 2002 and the number of projects expected to receive funding for specific projects in the acute hospital sector (details supplied). — Liam Twomey. [10700/04]

2. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if the terms of reference of the inquiry, to be chaired by Judge Maureen Harding- Clarke, into the activities of a person (details supplied) have been finalised; when the inquiry will begin; the form it will take; when he expects it to be completed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie Penrose. [10788/04]

3. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the person he intends to appoint to the expert group on water fluoridation; when he expects them to report to him; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ciarán Cuffe. [10817/04]

4. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the efforts he is making to reduce waiting lists and the lengths of periods for patients on waiting lists to see consultant endocrinologists; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gerard Murphy. [10866/04]

5. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the progress made to date on regulating complementary and alternative medicine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Dan Boyle. [10815/04]

6. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the progress to date in the work of the implementation bodies for the East Coast Health Board and Midwestern Health Board area in regard to the Hanly Report; if an assessment has been undertaken of the costs of implementing the Hanly recommendations in each area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Liz McManus. [10798/04]

7. To ask the Minister for Health and Children his plans to address the shortage of radiographers across the State; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gerard Murphy. [10869/04]

8. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the position regarding the application of the European Working Time Directive to non-consultative hospital doctors; the latest assessment of the implications for staffing levels in hospitals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [10799/04]

9. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the steps he is taking to provide a preventative programme to reduce the level of opiate related deaths, especially in the Dublin area in which the death toll from opiates is running at the same level as from traffic accidents; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [10783/04]

10. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the programme of work undertaken to date by the National Steering Committee to oversee the different strands of the health reform programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Kathleen Lynch. [10811/04]

11. To ask the Minister for Health and Children further to Parliamentary Question No. 949 of 30 September 2003, if he has received expert advice on the question of self testing for patients on anticoagulation therapy; if he will meet with members of Anti-coagulation Europe to discuss the matter further; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Gogarty. [10820/04]

12. To ask the Minister for Health and Children when his Department will announce the decision on the location of radiotherapy centres in Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Fergus O'Dowd. [10844/04]

13. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if he has sought or received an assessment from the VHI of the likely impact on its premiums of the decision not to proceed with the proposed risk equalisation scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Costello. [10805/04]

14. To ask the Minister for Health and Children his plans to provide community-based early intervention services and programmes for the identification, assessment and treatment of children with emotional and behavioural problems as promised in the National Children's Strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael Ring. [10874/04]

15. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the efforts he has made to ensure that persons on low incomes have better access to healthcare; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Deasy. [10861/04]

16. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the progress of the inquiry being held into the death of a person (details supplied) two weeks after they underwent an appendix operation at Cavan General Hospital and who subsequently went back to the casualty department suffering from stomach pains, but was sent home; when he expects to receive the final report; when the committee appointed to inquire into complaints made against two consultants at the hospital will report; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Breeda Moynihan-Cronin. [10780/04]

17. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the plans and programmes that he has in place to tackle the ongoing accident and emergency crisis in our hospitals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Gay Mitchell. [10855/04]

18. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the progress to date on his commitment to provide an additional 709 acute hospital beds to public patients; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Connaughton. [10846/04]

19. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the funding available in each health board area in 2004 for cancer services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Arthur Morgan. [10911/04]

20. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if his attention has been drawn to the results of recent research commissioned on behalf of the Irish Patients Association which shows that almost half of family doctors and two thirds of pharmacists are not informing patients regarding the potential side effects of medicines; the steps he intends to take to ensure that patients are provided with full information in regard to medicines they may be taking; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Michael D. Higgins. [10806/04]

21. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if his attention has been drawn to the number of cutbacks in home help services in many health boards across the country; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Dan Neville. [10842/04]

22. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the progress on dealing with the problem of a shortage of long stay beds which is having a severe impact on hospital services across the State; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Tom Hayes. [10870/04]

23. To ask the Minister for Health and Children when it is expected that the new five story facility at James Connolly Memorial Hospital, Blanchardstown, which cost more than €96 million to construct and equip, will be brought into service; the steps being taken to ensure that the facility is commissioned without further delay; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Ryan. [10793/04]

24. To ask the Minister for Health and Children when he intends to publish the report commissioned from a company (details supplied) on the GMS, in view of the fact that it is over a year since a draft was submitted to him; if the report has been brought to Government; if it is intended to implement the recommendations of the report; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Sherlock. [10792/04]

25. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if he will consider launching an information campaign on the health effects of indoor pollution and the need for people to properly ventilate their homes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Dan Boyle. [10816/04]

26. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if his attention has been drawn to the fact that persons attending the existing Ballymun health centre have had to be turned away on health and safety grounds; the steps being taken to ensure that the Ballymun health centre will be brought into operation and made available to the people of the area, in view of the fact that it has remained unused, although completed, for a year at an estimated cost of €3.5 million; if he has received an application for funding to allow the centre to be fitted out; if he intends to make this money available; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [10794/04]

27. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the position regarding his discussions with the Irish Hospital Consultants Association regarding the proposed new system of medical insurance; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mary Upton. [10825/04]

28. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the paediatric care services available in the health system for children with diabetes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Connaughton. [10850/04]

29. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the statistics available to his office on the amount of anti-depressants prescribed to persons here by doctors; his views on whether too many antidepressants are being prescribed as is the case in the UK; his plans to ensure that fewer antidepressants are prescribed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Gormley. [10813/04]

30. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the progress on the primary care implementation projects; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Dan Neville. [10841/04]

31. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if his attention has been drawn to the serious concerns expressed regarding the lack of clarity from his Department in regard to roles and responsibilities of the new health service reform structures and the failure of the Government to establish a working group to consider the issue of public/private mix equity in regard to access; the steps he intends to take to deal with these concerns; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jack Wall. [10828/04]

32. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if he will make a statement on the future role of Peamount Hospital especially in regard to its role as the national referral centre for tuberculosis. — Brendan Howlin. [10809/04]

33. To ask the Minister for Health and Children his plans to provide adequate staffing at all levels in hospitals and throughout the health service; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [10839/04]

34. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if the Government intends to carry out checks on fluoride levels in the blood of Irish persons; the reason this has not been done to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ciarán Cuffe. [10818/04]

35. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if he has plans to introduce measures to control and regulate medical procedures offered for cosmetic purposes, such as the use of medical lasers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eamon Gilmore. [10807/04]

36. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if he has had discussions on the radical reorganisation of the major acute hospitals in the Dublin region; his views on transferring tertiary services to one major site which would only do elective work; if one or more of the five major Dublin hospitals will be designated a major acute accident and emergency referral hospital which will only deal with emergencies and not deal with elective work; if there are plans to designate one or more of these five major hospitals a general hospital as defined by the Hanly Report which will only do elective work; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Liam Twomey. [10699/04]

37. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the position regarding his consideration of the report of the pharmacy review group; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian O'Shea. [10782/04]

38. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the efforts he has made to reduce hospital waiting lists; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Breen. [10859/04]

39. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if the Government has managed to increase breastfeeding rates in the past two years; the strategy he has to increase the number of women who breastfeed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — John Gormley. [10814/04]

40. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the programme of action proposed by his Department to ensure that the target set by Comhairle na nOspidéal of one consultant dermatologist per 100,000 of population will be reached; when it is proposed to appoint and the places at which it is proposed to locate the additional 19 consultant dermatologists required to meet this target; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin. [10909/04]

41. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if his attention has been drawn to the concerns expressed by a person (details supplied) regarding the high level of compulsory committals to mental hospitals, which now amounts to more than 3,000 per year; if he has plans to review procedures for committals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brendan Howlin. [10810/04]

42. To ask the Minister for Health and Children when he expects that the next hospital waiting list figures will be published; the steps he intends to take to reduce the numbers on the lists and the waiting periods; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairi Quinn. [10790/04]

43. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the number of new hospital beds that have been provided to date in 2004 and the projected number that will be provided before the end of 2004; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Liz McManus. [10797/04]

44. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if consultants have been appointed to run a public relations and information campaign in connection with the Hanly report; the company appointed; the total value of the contract; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jan O'Sullivan. [10787/04]

45. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the extent to which patients suffering from various forms of cancer can obtain treatment within their own region; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Bernard J. Durkan. [10840/04]

46. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if he will report on the waiting lists for public nursing home beds in view of the fact that it is alleged that in the Dublin area there is a waiting list of up to 12.5 years; if, in view of this situation, he will consider availing of the country's vacant beds in private nursing homes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Seán Ryan. [10829/04]

47. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if, in view of the interview given by the Taoiseach on RTÉ on 7 March 2004, in which he confirmed that the commitment given on 6 May 2002 that hospital waiting lists would be cleared within two years will not be met, if it is still the Government's objective that hospital waiting lists should be cleared; if he intends to set new deadlines for such an objective; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Thomas P. Broughan. [10800/04]

48. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the reason modern digital hearing aids are not supplied to the hard of hearing through the health service; the average length of time a person has to wait before the supply of a hearing aid; and the number on the waiting lists. — Jim O'Keeffe. [10666/04]

49. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the way in which it is proposed to continue and to further develop Co-operation and Working Together after the end of 2004 in the context of the new health services structures including the close of co-operation between the North Eastern and North Western Health Boards and the health services in the Six Counties; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin. [10910/04]

50. To ask the Minister for Health and Children his views on the proposal lodged with his Department in June 2003 by BreastCheck to extend its services nationwide; the likely completion date for the roll out of BreastCheck. — Jack Wall. [10827/04]

51. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the extent of licences which exist for laboratories which use live animals in tests and experiments; and if he will review these licences in the context of developments in the testing of drugs and other products which no longer require the use of live animals and of reports that a company (details supplied) in Glenamoy, County Mayo, may look to expand. — Trevor Sargent. [9201/04]

52. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the level of remuneration for those on the task force for obesity; the frequency with which the task force meets; when he expects its first report; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eamon Ryan. [10822/04]

53. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the progress made to date with regard to implementation of the Prospectus Report on health structures; when he expects to introduce legislation to provide for the establishment of the four new regional health authorities; the provision there will be for democratic accountability in regard to these new authorities; when he expects that the new authorities will be operational; the plans he has for appointments to health boards in the period between the local elections in June 2004 and the establishment of the new authorities; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Jan O'Sullivan. [10786/04]

54. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the progress made to date with regard to implementation of the recommendations of the Hanly Report; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Pat Rabbitte. [10785/04]

55. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the position in regard to his commitment that there would be an inquiry into the role of multinational drug companies in the contamination of blood products; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Róisín Shortall. [10795/04]

56. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the progress made to date by the Commission on Assisted Human Reproduction which was established in March 2000; when he expects to receive the report of the Commission; if the finalisation of the report has been held up as a result of the dispute between hospital consultants and his Department; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emmet Stagg. [10824/04]

57. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if he will make a statement on the recent report of the independent review group on the Galway Hospice. — Michael D. Higgins. [10804/04]

58. To ask the Minister for Health and Children when he hopes that Ireland will be able to comply with the European Working Time Directive in relation to junior doctors; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eamon Ryan. [10821/04]

59. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the number of persons who work for the Treatment Purchase Fund; the amount the fund costs to manage in terms of wages, administration, publicity and so on; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Trevor Sargent. [10823/04]

60. To ask the Minister for Health and Children when the cervical smear testing programme will be available nationwide; the steps being taken to reduce delays in the provision of results; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Kathleen Lynch. [10812/04]

61. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the number of persons who held medical cards in June 2002 and at the latest date for which figures are available; and the proportion of the population this represents in respect of each such date; when it is intended to implement the commitment to extend eligibility for medical cards in order to bring in over 200,000 extra persons; the new guidelines for eligibility for medical cards published in April 2004; the number of additional persons he estimates will qualify as a result of these changes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Willie Penrose. [10789/04]

62. To ask the Minister for Health and Children when he expects to receive the report of the independent review into the circumstances of the death of a person (details supplied) on 1 July 2003 having been sent home by Our Lady's Hospital for Sick Children in Crumlin due to a shortage of nurses for the intensive care unit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Ruairi Quinn. [10791/04]

63. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the number of the promised 850 community nursing units now available in regard to his announcement of July 2002; the hospitals in which they are available; the number in each case; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Mary Upton. [10826/04]

64. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if his attention has been drawn to comments made by a consultant (details supplied) which described the state of services for children with diabetes as a scandal and medically indefensible; the steps he is taking to ensure that adequate services are available to children with diabetes; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joe Costello. [10803/04]

65. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the progress which has been made by the working group on the development of a no-fault compensation system for birth-damaged children; when he expects the group to report; if he will seek to expedite the introduction of proposals in this area, having regard to the recent awards in the High Court and the increasing difficulties facing practitioners and especially obstetricians in finding insurance cover; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Emmet Stagg. [10796/04]

66. To ask the Minister for Health and Children when he expects that the National Cancer Strategy will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Eamon Gilmore. [10808/04]

67. To ask the Minister for Health and Children if and the way in which he proposes to improve and develop the ambulance service in the country; and the EU rules which affect his proposals. — Jim O'Keeffe. [10665/04]

68. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the number of births in the State in 1980 and in the latest year for which figures are available; the average length of stay of mothers giving birth for the years in question; the steps he has taken to establish the nationality of mothers who give birth at the Dublin maternity hospitals; if he has received a request for additional resources for the Dublin maternity hospitals; if he has satisfied himself with the level of resources available to the Dublin maternity hospitals; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Burton. [10801/04]

69. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the cost of the purchase and distribution to 2.1 million households of iodine tablets during 2002; if it is planned to withdraw these tablets in view of reports that they would be useless in the event of an

incident at Sellafield and could even pose a health risk to some persons; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Joan Burton. [10802/04]

70. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the progress made to date with regard to the implementation of the recommendations of the Brennan Report; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Brian O'Shea. [10784/04]

71. To ask the Minister for Health and Children his plans to curb binge drinking; if he intends to place health warnings on alcoholic beverages; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Paul Gogarty. [10819/04]

72. To ask the Minister for Health and Children the level of take-up of the MMR vaccine in each health board area for the latest period for which figures are available; the steps being taken to promote fuller take-up; and if he will make a statement on the matter. — Breeda Moynihan-Cronin. [10781/04]

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