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1. This week in the Oireachtas (16-20 July 2012)

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2. Oireachtas Questions and Debate (09-13 July 2012)

Children's Rights Referendum

Priority Questions: Children's Rights Referendum (10 Jul 2012)

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/debates/?id=2012-07-10.10.0>

Written Answers — Children's Rights Referendum: Children's Rights Referendum (10 Jul 2012)

[Regina Doherty](#) (Meath East, Fine Gael)

Question 436: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if the definition of the best interests of the child as defined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child is to be included in the wording of the Children's Rights Referendum; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.2066.0>

Priority Questions: Children's Rights Referendum (10 July 2012)

[Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin](#) (Cavan-Monaghan, Sinn Féin)

Question 19: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the date on which she plans to publish legislation to facilitate the holding of a referendum on children's rights; when she will advise opposition spokespeople of the wording of her amendment; the date on which the referendum will be held; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/debates/?id=2012-07-10.10.0>

Written Answers — Children's Rights Referendum: Children's Rights Referendum (10 Jul 2012)

[John Browne](#) (Wexford, Fianna Fail)

Question 28: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she will give a timeline for the publication of enacting legislation for the children's referendum; when the referendum will take place; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.603.0>

Written Answers — Children's Rights Referendum: Children's Rights Referendum (10 Jul 2012)

[Dessie Ellis](#) (Dublin North West, Sinn Féin)

Question 44: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the date on which she will publish legislation to hold a referendum on children's rights; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.603.0>

Education: including special needs, ECCE and childminding, minorities, disadvantage, literacy and numeracy, school staffing, school buildings, school patronage, curriculum

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: School Transport (10 Jul 2012)

[Dara Calleary](#) (Mayo, Fianna Fail)

Question 163: To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if he will outline the mechanisms used by VECs in determining the distance from a candidate's home to place of education; if he is satisfied that this method of measuring the distance is accurate and transparent; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.1074.0>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: School Patronage (10 Jul 2012)

[Kevin Humphreys](#) (Dublin South East, Labour)

Question 181: To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if his attention has been drawn to the fact that there is significant demand in the Dublin 6, 8 and 12 area for a new multid denominational school; if any plans have been drawn up in his Department towards recognising the start up group that currently exists; if there has been any consideration of any potential there may be locally for divestment of a current school to cater for this demand; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.1021.0>

Asylum/Immigration

Written Answers — Asylum Support Services (10 Jul 2012)

[Gerry Adams](#) (Louth, Sinn Fein)

Question 345: To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if the current residents of the Mosney camp, County Meath are to be relocated to an alternative site; if they are to be relocated to an alternative site; if the Bettystown Court Hotel is being considered as a possible option. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.1726.0>

Child Services/ Children in Care: including foster care and social work services, HSE staffing, youth services

Written Answers — Department of Health: Child Care Services (10 Jul 2012)

[Robert Troy](#) (Longford-Westmeath, Fianna Fail)

Question 27: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if, in view of publication of the report of the Independent Child Death Review Group, she will commit to the introduction of mandatory aftercare; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.598.0>

Written Answers — Department of Health: Child Care Services (10 Jul 2012)

[Pádraig MacLochlainn](#) (Donegal North East, Sinn Fein)

Question 37: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if any action will be taken against those Health Service Executive employees who closed their files on children who subsequently died, whose cases were examined in the report of the Independent Child Death Review Group; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.636.0>

Written Answers — Department of Health: Child Care Services (10 Jul 2012)

[Patrick Nulty](#) (Dublin West, Labour)

Question 36: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the position regarding Irish children who are detained abroad on high court orders; if she will take action to ensure that appropriate places are made available for these children within this jurisdiction; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.632.0>

Written Answers — Department of Health: Youth Services (10 Jul 2012)

[Michael Colreavy](#) (Sligo-North Leitrim, Sinn Fein)

Question 39: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the number of times the International Expert Reference Group and the Task Group established under the auspices of the National Youth Work Advisory Committee have each met to date; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.644.0>

Written Answers — Departmental Expenditure: Departmental Expenditure (10 Jul 2012)

[Bernard Durkan](#) (Kildare North, Fine Gael)

Question 441: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she is satisfied regarding the availability of sufficient funds being available to her Department notwithstanding the on-going economic situation in view of pressing need to ensure that youth and children services receive the fullest possible attention thereby presenting the recurrence of previous happenings; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.2083.0>

Written Answers — Department of Health: Youth Services (10 Jul 2012)

[Bernard Durkan](#) (Kildare North, Fine Gael)

Question 444: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the progress made by her to date towards establishing dialogue and networking with youth groups throughout the country with the objective of meeting any necessary requirements arising; the extent to which she has to date sought and or received submissions in this regard; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.2095.0>

Written Answers — Department of Health: Foster Care (10 Jul 2012)

[Dessie Ellis](#) (Dublin North West, Sinn Fein)

Question 42: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the cost of private foster care services used by the Health Service Executive during each of the past five years; the number of children placed in each of these settings during the past five years and to date in 2012; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.658.0>

Written Answers — Children in Care: Children in Care (10 Jul 2012)

[Pádraig MacLochlainn](#) (Donegal North East, Sinn Fein)

Question 50: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the number of children in care on 1 June 2012; the type of care setting they were in and the Health Service Executive area they were in; the number of children on that date who were known to the HSE child and family social workers but not in care; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.686.0>

Written Answers — Children and Family Services (10 Jul 2012)

[Seán Crowe](#) (Dublin South West, Sinn Fein)

Question 49: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the distinct budget that has been allocated to the management and reporting structure being put in place in Children and Family Services; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.682.0>

Written Answers — Department of Health: Foster Care (10 Jul 2012)

[Bernard Durkan](#) (Kildare North, Fine Gael)

Question 450: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the extent child fostering services are available throughout the country; the total number of places now required; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.2116.0>

Children in Care (10 Jul 2012)

[Charlie McConalogue](#) (Donegal North East, Fianna Fail)

Question 18: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the number and proportion of children in the care of the State without an assigned social worker in February 2011; the same figures in respect of today; her plans to improve these figures; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/debates/?id=2012-07-10.4.0>

Child Care Services (10 Jul 2012)

[Dara Calleary](#) (Mayo, Fianna Fail)

Question 23: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs her implementation plan for the introduction of 24 hour social work service; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/debates/?id=2012-07-10.42.0>

Written Answers — Children & Family Services (10 Jul 2012)

[Peadar Tóibín](#) (Meath West, Sinn Fein)

Question : To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the details of evaluation that will take place of the two pilot projects providing out of hours social work assistance to children; and the timeframe during which this will take place. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.715.0>

Written Answers — Youth Services: Youth Services (10 Jul 2012)

[Bernard Durkan](#) (Kildare North, Fine Gael)

Question 444: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the progress made by her to date towards establishing dialogue and networking with youth groups throughout the country with the objective of meeting any necessary requirements arising; the extent to which she has to date sought and or received submissions in this regard; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.2095.0>

Written Answers — Child Protection: Child Protection (10 Jul 2012)

[Martin Ferris](#) (Kerry North-West Limerick, Sinn Fein)

Question 51: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the average case-load for social workers working in child protective services; the number of those social workers employed in residential care settings; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.690.0>

Written Answers — Child Care Services: Child Care Services (10 Jul 2012)

[Derek Nolan](#) (Galway West, Labour)

Question 422: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the number of social workers she intends to take on as a result of the Child First Guidelines; the number that will be taken on nationally and locally; when they will be taken on; the locations at which they will be based; the number of positions that will be filled; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.2017.0>

Other Questions- Child Care Services (10 July 2012)

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/debates/?id=2012-07-10.50.0>

Written Answers — Departmental Functions: Departmental Functions (10 Jul 2012)

[Peadar Tóibín](#) (Meath West, Sinn Fein)

Question 29: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the position regarding the dialogue between her and the Department of Justice and Equality regarding the transfer of certain youth justice functions to her Department; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.608.0>

Child Abuse/Child Protection: including vetting, child abduction

Written Answers — Child Protection: Child Protection (10 Jul 2012)

[Jonathan O'Brien](#) (Cork North Central, Sinn Fein)

Question 33: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the number of children who have stayed overnight in Garda stations to date in 2012, broken down by division and month, due to a lack of an out-of-hours child protection unit. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.624.0>

Written Answers — Child Abuse: Child Abuse (10 Jul 2012)

[Catherine Murphy](#) (Kildare North, Independent)

Question 32: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if, in the preparation of policy concerning the mandatory reporting of the abuse of children and or vulnerable persons, she has taken into account the experience of New South Wales, Australia, which introduced similar legislation in 1999 that resulted in unintended adverse effects for the effective provision of child protection services in that State; if so, if she anticipates similar problems for child protection services here; the measures under investigation to ensure the avoidance of same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.620.0>

Written Answers — Child Protection Guidelines: Child Protection Guidelines (10 Jul 2012)

[Catherine Murphy](#) (Kildare North, Independent)

Question 434: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if, in planning for the mandatory reporting of child abuse, she has considered the funding and resources that will be required to manage the system of reporting; her views that the provision of these resources may result in the reduction of resources available to provide services for vulnerable children; if resources will be allocated to improve the community based welfare services; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.2058.0>

Written Answers — Child Protection: Child Protection (10 Jul 2012)

[Derek Keating](#) (Dublin Mid West, Fine Gael)

Question 428: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if in view of the fact that it is reported that every year more than 30,000 child protection and welfare concerns were reported to the Health Service Executive Services and 16,000 of these are child welfare concerns, 13,000 of these are child protection concerns and 1,500 of these are confirmed as cases of sexual, physical and emotional abuse, if she has satisfied herself that she has enough social workers in place to deal with the reporting of such cases, the waiting time to see a social worker in tabular form; the waiting time to have a risk assessment conducted and the waiting time to have a case completed to ensure that a child is safe in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.2037.0>

Written Answers — Child Protection: Child Protection (10 Jul 2012)

[Bernard Durkan](#) (Kildare North, Fine Gael)

Question 52: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if, arising from the number of reported incidents of child physical, sexual or other abuse, any particular lessons will be learned as to how best the relevant State institutions can become aware of the issues at a much earlier stage; if, arising from these experiences, she has in mind any particular structural changes in the area of child support services whereby it might be possible for the implementation of an early warning system thereby ensuring greater protection for children and young vulnerable adults in the future; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.694.0>

Family: including adoption

Written Answers — Inter-Country Adoptions: Inter-Country Adoptions (10 Jul 2012)

[Aengus Ó Snodaigh](#) (Dublin South Central, Sinn Fein)

Question 61: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the date in September 2012 on which she will sign a new inter-country adoption agreement with Vietnam; the position regarding any ongoing negotiations with other States regarding inter-country adoption agreements.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.719.0>

Written Answers — Inter-Country Adoptions: Inter-Country Adoptions (10 Jul 2012)

[Niall Collins](#) (Limerick, Fianna Fail)

Question 30: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the number of countries with which Ireland has signed an administrative agreement for the purposes of facilitating inter-country adoptions; the number of children adopted using administrative arrangements since the establishment of the Adoption Authority of Ireland; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.612.0>

Written Answers — Inter-Country Adoptions: Inter-Country Adoptions (10 Jul 2012)

Timmy Dooley (Clare, Fianna Fail)

Question 31: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the progress made on finalising an administrative or working agreement with Kazakhstan for the adoption of children; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.616.0>

Written Answers — Inter-Country Adoptions: Inter-Country Adoptions (10 Jul 2012)

Michael Moynihan (Cork North West, Fianna Fail)

Question 46: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the number of adoptions registered with the Adoption Authority of Ireland since its establishment to adopters who were issued with their declarations of eligibility and suitability; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.670.0>

Written Answers — Inter-Country Adoptions: Inter-Country Adoptions (10 Jul 2012)

Aengus Ó Snodaigh (Dublin South Central, Sinn Fein)

Question 61: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the date in September 2012 on which she will sign a new inter-country adoption agreement with Vietnam; the position regarding any ongoing negotiations with other States regarding inter-country adoption agreements. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.719.0>

Written Answers — Foreign Adoptions: Foreign Adoptions (10 Jul 2012)

Dara Calleary (Mayo, Fianna Fail)

Question 424: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if any progress has been made in resolving the delay in the signing of the bilateral agreement between the Irish and Russian authorities in respect of the adoption of Russian children to Irish families. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.2021.0>

Written Answers — Foreign Adoptions: Foreign Adoptions (10 Jul 2012)

Jack Wall (Kildare South, Labour)

Question 435: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs when the Adoption Authority of Ireland will start processing adoptions from India or when an agent will be appointed; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.2062.0>

Written Answers — Foreign Adoptions: Foreign Adoptions (10 Jul 2012)

Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin (Cavan-Monaghan, Sinn Fein)

Question 440: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the timeframe within which the bilateral agreement between Russian and Irish adoption authorities will be completed; when the

agreement will be signed and when adoptions from Russia will recommence; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.2070.0>

Written Answers — Department of Health: Adoption Services (10 Jul 2012)

[Bernard Durkan](#) (Kildare North, Fine Gael)

Question 451: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the total number of applications for adoption, national and foreign awaiting process or approval; if she will further outline her proposals to address the most obvious of frequently arising issues; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.2120.0>

Health and Wellbeing: including disability, mental health, substance misuse, primary care, health services, hospital services, obesity, sports facilities

Seanad Debate: Childhood Obesity (12 Jul 2012)

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/sendebates/?id=2012-07-12.540.0>

Written Answers — Suicide Prevention: Suicide Prevention (10 Jul 2012)

[Dan Neville](#) (Limerick, Fine Gael)

Question 469: To ask the Minister for Health the progress made on the implementation of the National Strategy for Action on Suicide Prevention 2005 - 2014.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.2182.0>

Topical Issue Debate: Suicide Prevention (12 July 2012)

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/debates/?id=2012-07-12.220.0>

Written Answers — Child Protection: Child Protection (10 Jul 2012)

[Micheál Martin](#) (Leader of the Opposition; Cork South Central, Fianna Fail)

Question 34: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the actions she is taking to address the serious issues of alcohol misuse as identified in a child welfare case and highlighted in the report of the Independent Child Death Review Group as a factor in multiple cases; her liaisons with the Department of Health in this regard; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.628.0>

Justice Issues/ Human Rights/Equality

Constitutional Convention: Motion (12 Jul 2012)

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/sendebates/?id=2012-07-12.290.0>

Seanad Debate: European Court of Human Rights decision in A, B and C v. Ireland (12 Jul 2012)

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/sendebates/?id=2012-07-12.534.0>

Written Answers — Children Detention Schools: Children Detention Schools (10 Jul 2012)

[Mick Wallace](#) (Wexford, Independent)

Question 45: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the number of children currently detained at St. Patrick's Institution, Dublin; her views on the need to introduce interim steps to transfer these 16 and 17 year olds out of that institution; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.666.0>

Topical Issue Debate: Family Law Cases (11 Jul 2012)

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/debates/?id=2012-07-11.487.0>

Written Answers — Court Proceedings: Court Proceedings (10 Jul 2012)

[Brendan Smith](#) (Cavan-Monaghan, Fianna Fail)

Question 47: To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she will bring forward legislation to change the in camera rule regarding the reporting of child protection and welfare cases; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.674.0>

Written Answers — Human Trafficking: Human Trafficking (10 Jul 2012)

[Bernard Durkan](#) (Kildare North, Fine Gael)

Question 343: To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the extent he has identified locations for potential trafficking in children or young adults with particular reference to the need to prevent the

activities of organised criminals in this area; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2012-07-10.1721.0>

The Oireachtas Monitor is produced by the Children's Rights Alliance and is a compilation of links to Oireachtas Debates and Questions relating to children and families. The source is derived from content on the kildarestreet.com website. We acknowledge their assistance in the provision of this service. As the information is sourced from an external party, we do not accept responsibility for its content.

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