

Dear Members and Friends,

Please be advised that, owing to changes in the design of the debates section of [www.oireachtas.ie](http://www.oireachtas.ie) web site, we are only able to offer you a limited Oireachtas Monitor that may be missing some relevant information. We apologise for this and hope to resolve the issue with the Oireachtas Debates Office as soon as possible. If you would like more information, please get in touch.

Best wishes,

Ken Reid

Information Officer

## Oireachtas Monitor

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## 1. This week in the Oireachtas (15-19 October 2012)

<http://www.oireachtas.ie/viewdoc.asp?DocID=21898&&CatID=60>

## 2. Oireachtas Questions and Debate (08-12 October 2012)

### Children's Rights Referendum

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Questions. Children's Rights:** Deputy Michael McGrath asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald in the context of the forthcoming referendum on Children's rights, if she will outline her commitment to providing sufficient resources to ensure the imprescriptible rights of the child including health and education and the individualised nature of children's needs are met; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900076?opendocument&highlight=youth%20services#Children%27s%20Rights>

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

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Priority Questions Schools Guidance Counsellors:** Deputy Charlie McConalogue asked the Minister for Education and Skills if he has conducted an audit of the impact that cuts to guidance and counselling services at second level made in Budget 2012 is having on the student population; and the measures he plans to take to ensure that the needs of students are adequately catered for.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900003?opendocument>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Priority Questions Teacher Training:** Deputy Catherine Murphy asked the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairí Quinn if, in view of the cuts to salary levels for new entrants to the teaching profession, he has performed a risk assessment on the demand for teacher training places in view of the lower income expectations; if he has considered the impact of persons doing the same work for different incomes and the conflicts that may arise; and if the risk assessment has considered if there will be varying educational outcomes on foot of this decision.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900005?opendocument>

### Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Other Questions. School Funding:

Deputy David Stanton asked the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairí Quinn the estimated cost of the transition year programme per annum; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900007?opendocument>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Other Questions Mental Health Guidelines:** Deputy Dara Calleary asked the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairí Quinn if he will consider the introduction of a whole

school approach to tackling mental health in education rather than the current curriculum based approach; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900008?opendocument#Mental%20Health%20Guidelines>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Other Questions. Bullying in Schools:** Deputy Regina Doherty Regina Doherty asked the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairí Quinn in view of the growing and worrying trend of youth self-harm and youth suicide, his plans to develop a policy to deal with the growth of social media in education and in particular the use of mobile phones, smart phones, i-pads and laptops during the normal school day; if he has examined the problem of cyber bullying, . . .

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900012?opendocument#Bullying%20in%20Schools>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Other Questions. Special Educational Needs:** Deputy Seán Fleming asked the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairí Quinn his views on the recent policy advice from the National Council for Special Education in relation to tackling challenging behaviour in schools; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900013?opendocument#Special%20Educational%20Needs>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Other Questions. Teachers' Remuneration:** Deputy Barry Cowen asked the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairí Quinn his views on the Croke Park Agreement and the protection of teachers' pay; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900014?opendocument#Teachers%27%20Remuneration>

**Dáil Éireann 10/10/2012 Written Answers. School Staffing:** Deputy Charlie McConalogue asked the Minister for Education and Skills a number of questions on school staffing.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012101000070?opendocument#Written%20Answers%20Nos%2080-95>

**Dáil Éireann 10/10/2012 Schools Recognition:**

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012101000031?opendocument#Schools%20Recognition>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Questions. Education Welfare Service:** Deputy Jonathan O'Brien asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald the number of education welfare officers in each county.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900076?opendocument&highlight=youth%20services#Education%20Welfare%20Service>

**Joint Committee on Education and Social Protection Debate 10/10/2012 Managing Back to School Costs: Discussion:**

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/committeetakes/EDJ2012101000003?opendocument#Managing%20Back%20to%20School%20Costs:%20Discussion>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Answers. School Staffing:** Deputy Brian Stanley asked the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairí Quinn the number of teachers affected by the pay cut for new entrants to teaching, the cap on qualification allowances for new entrants to teaching and the abolition of qualification allowances for new entrants to teaching . . .  
<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900052?opendocument&highlight=residential#School%20Staffing>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Answers. School Staffing:** Deputy Seamus Kirk asked the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairí Quinn if he has any concerns regarding the casualisation of the teaching profession at post primary level and the high numbers of second level teachers who are on short term temporary contracts; . . .  
<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900052?opendocument&highlight=residential#School%20Staffing>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Answers. Bullying in Schools:** Deputy Bernard J. Durkan asked the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairí Quinn the extent to which he continues to be made aware of incidents of all forms of school bullying including bullying of a physical, psychological and or electronic nature at primary and or second level schools throughout the country; . . .  
<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900052?opendocument&highlight=residential#Bullying%20in%20Schools>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Answers. Pupil-Teacher Ratio:** Deputy Pádraig Mac Lochlainn asked the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairí Quinn if he will respond to the figures (details supplied) which show that 112,821 pupils were in classes of 30 or more for the last school year; and his plans to address the rise in primary school class sizes and increase in pupil teacher ratios resulting from cutbacks and an increasing school population.  
<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900052?opendocument&highlight=residential#Pupil-Teacher%20Ratio>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Answers. Educational Disadvantage:** Deputy Robert Troy asked the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairí Quinn if he will ensure that all educational disadvantage schemes and supports are protected in Budget 2013; and if he will make a statement on the matter.  
<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900052?opendocument&highlight=residential#Educational%20Disadvantage>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Answers. School Evaluations:** Deputy Seán Crowe asked the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairí Quinn in view of the fact that as the literacy and numeracy for learning and life strategy requires all schools to engage in robust self-evaluation and have in place a three year school improvement plan, if he will confirm when he will publish Guidelines for Self-Evaluation in order to facilitate schools to proceed with the requirements that he has established.  
<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900052?opendocument&highlight=residential#School%20Evaluations>

## Asylum/Immigration

**Dáil Éireann 10/10/2012 Written Answers. Asylum Seeker Accommodation.** Deputy Michael McNamara asked the Minister for Justice and Equality Information the number of asylum seekers that have died while living in direct provision centres over the past 12 years; the year in which each died; their respective ages at the time of their deaths and the respective cause of their deaths; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012101000082?opendocument>

**Dáil Éireann 10/10/2012 Written Answers. Deportation Orders.** Deputy Michael McNamara asked the Minister for Justice and Equality Information on Alan Shatter the number of Irish citizen minors that accompanied parents or other family members on deportation flights; the years in which those deportations took place; the number per year; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012101000082?opendocument#Deportation%20Orders>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Answers. Asylum Seeker Accommodation:** Deputy Nicky McFadden asked the Minister for Justice and Equality Alan Shatter if companies who operate asylum accommodation here are subject to central guidelines or rules in terms of day-to-day running of those centres; if individual companies operate their own management rules; if conditions vary in accommodation centres; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900071?opendocument#Asylum%20Seeker%20Accommodation>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Answers. Asylum Reform:** Deputy Nicky McFadden asked the Minister for Justice and Equality Alan Shatter if he has considered the Irish Refugee Council's report, Roadmap for Asylum Reform; if any of the recommendations in the report are being progressed in policy; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900071?opendocument#Asylum%20Reform>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Answers. Residency Permits:** Deputy Pádraig Mac Lochlainn on Pádraig MacLochlainn asked the Minister for Justice and Equality Alan Shatter the number of children of migrant workers between the ages of 16 and 24 who are currently registered in the State and a breakdown of the types of residency stamps issued to these children.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900071?opendocument#Residency%20Permits>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Answers. Citizenship Applications:** Deputy Nicky McFadden asked the Minister for Justice and Equality Alan Shatter if he will clarify the rights afforded to a baby born here to parents who are waiting on decisions on their applications for asylum; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900071?opendocument#Citizenship%20Applications>

**Seanad Éireann 11/10/2012 Order of Business. Direct Provision:** Senator Trevor Ó Clochartaigh: I am calling for a debate on direct provision as I believe there is broad agreement that the system is not working. I note that the Minister, when in opposition in July 2010, said the manner in which it operates should be subject to a fundamental review, preferably in the next six months. . . .

[oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates](http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates)

[Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/seanad2012101100004?opendocument](http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/DebatesAuthoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/seanad2012101100004?opendocument)

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

**Dáil Éireann 10/10/2012 Written Answers. Child Care Services:** Deputy Thomas P. Broughan asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald if she will list the residential child care centres in Health Service Executive Dublin North East; the number of young persons in each of these centres; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012101000087?opendocument&highlight=child%20care#Child%20Care%20Services>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Questions. Programme for Government:** Deputy Simon Harris asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald if she will outline in tabular form the commitments in the Programme for Government pertaining to her ministerial portfolio; the current status of these commitments in terms of implementation; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900076?opendocument&highlight=youth%20services#Programme%20for%20Government>

**Dáil Éireann 11/10/2012 Written Answers. Children in Care:** Deputy Dominic Hannigan asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald her plans, in conjunction with the Health Service Executive, for new special care beds for vulnerable teenagers; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2012101100057?opendocument>

**Dáil Éireann 11/10/2012 Written Answers. Departmental Investigations:** Departmental Investigations Deputy Dominic Hannigan asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances

Fitzgerald her plans, in conjunction with the Health Service Executive, for new special care beds for vulnerable teenagers; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2012101100057?opendocument#Departmental%20Investigations>

## Family: including adoption

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Questions. Adoption Services:** Deputy Maureen O'Sullivan asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald in view of the Children's Referendum and the fact that there are 50,000 adopted persons here who do not have an automatic right to their birth certificate, their medical information or history, . . .

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900076?opendocument&highlight=youth%20services#Adoption%20Services>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Questions. Adoption Services:** Deputy Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the efforts she is making to facilitate the estimated 50,000 adopted persons in this State who have been refused access to their personal medical and other records.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900076?opendocument&highlight=youth%20services#Adoption%20Services>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Questions. Inter-country Adoption:** Deputy Eoghan Murphy asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald when she expects to conclude her review of the reports submitted by the Adoption Authority of Ireland following their visit to Ethiopia.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900076?opendocument&highlight=youth%20services#Inter-Country%20Adoptions>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Questions. Adoption Services:** Deputy John Lyons asked several questions on Hague Convention Approved countries eligibility criteria.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900076?opendocument&highlight=youth%20services#Adoption%20Services>

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

**Seanad Éireann 10/10/2012 Primary Care Centres. Motion:**

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/seanad2012101000026?opendocument#>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Answers. Mental Health Services:** Deputy Gerry Adams asked the Minister for Health Dr. James Reilly the progress that has been made in the development of community-based mental health services since he came to office; with respect to the promised 370 staff for adult child and adolescent community mental health teams, 34 staff for suicide prevention

and 10 staff for primary healthcare counselling services, the number of these posts that have been filled and are now in position; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900081?opendocument&highlight=assisted%20human%20reproduction#Mental%20Health%20Services>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Answers. Primary Care Centres:** Deputy Gerry Adams asked the Minister for Health Information on Dr. James Reilly the number of primary care centres in operation across the State; if he will provide a list of these sites and the locations of same; if he will provide information on the services available at each site and the staffing based at each site.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900081?opendocument&highlight=assisted%20human%20reproduction#Primary%20Care%20Centres>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Answers. Programme for Government:** Deputy Simon Harris asked the Minister for Health Dr. James Reilly if he will outline in tabular form the commitments in the Programme for Government pertaining to his ministerial portfolio; the current status of these commitments in terms of implementation; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900079?opendocument&highlight=assisted%20human%20reproduction#Programme%20for%20Government>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Answers. Primary Care Strategy:** Deputy Billy Kelleher asked the Minister for Health Dr. James Reilly the delegated functions in the area of primary care that will be granted to the newly appointed Minister of State with responsibility for primary care; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900077?opendocument#Primary%20Care%20Strategy>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Answers:** Deputy Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin asked the Minister for Health Dr. James Reilly if his attention has been drawn to the increased costs to former cancer patients of in vitro fertilisation treatment; if he will investigate this anomaly and take measures to rectify same; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900081?opendocument&highlight=assisted%20human%20reproduction#Assisted%20Human%20Reproduction>

## Child Benefit/Social Welfare/Poverty/Housing

**Dáil Éireann 10/10/2012 Written Answers. Family Income Supplement:** Deputy Michael Lowry asked the Minister for Social Protection Joan Burton if her attention has been drawn to the delay by her Department in processing reviews of family income supplement payments and the impact this is having on low income families that are already stretched to the last (details supplied); her plan to address this issue; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012101000077?opendocument&highlight=family%20income%20supplement#Family%20Income%20Supplement>



**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Answers. Social Welfare Benefits:** Deputy Denis Naughten asked the Minister for Social Protection Joan Burton the steps she is taking to address the delay in processing applications within her Department; and if she will make a statement on the matter.  
<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900067?opendocument#Social%20Welfare%20Benefits>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Answers. Homelessness Strategy:** Deputy Dessie Ellis asked the Minister for the Environment; Community and Local Government Information on Phil Hogan the work he is undertaking to implement the housing first model here; his plans to adapt the original model to the Irish context and if he will give details of any research his Department or others have undertaken to ascertain its effectiveness.  
<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900069?opendocument#Homelessness%20Strategy>

## Justice Issues/ Human Rights/Equality

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Questions: Constitutional Convention:** Various questions.  
<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900018?opendocument#Constitutional%20Convention>

### **Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Answers.**

**Programme for Government:** Deputy Simon Harris asked the Taoiseach Enda Kenny if he will outline in tabular form the commitments in the Programme for Government pertaining to his ministerial portfolio; the current status of these commitments in terms of implementation; and if he will make a statement on the matter.  
<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/debateswebpack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900055?opendocument>

**Dáil Éireann 09/10/2012 Written Answers. Traveller Accommodation:** Deputy John McGuinness asked the Minister for the Environment; Community and Local Government Phil Hogan if he will approve an application from Kilkenny County Council for funding to provide modern and appropriate accommodation at an area (details supplied) in County Kilkenny; and if he will make a statement on the matter.  
<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2012100900070?opendocument&highlight=Travellers#Traveller%20Accommodation>