

Oireachtas Monitor
Published: 18 February 2013

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1. This week in the Oireachtas (18-22 February 2013)

<http://www.oireachtas.ie/viewdoc.asp?DocID=22868&&CatID=60>

2. Oireachtas Questions and Debate (11 February – 15 February 2013)

Children's Rights Referendum

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Written Answers: Children's Rights Referendum

Deputy Mattie McGrath asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs her views on the full McCrystal judgement handed down last week in the Supreme Court; the reason her Department used €1.1 million of Exchequer funding to support the Yes campaign; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021300074?opendocument#WRE00650>

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Written Answers: Child Custody and Access

Deputy Robert Dowds asked the Minister for Justice and Equality Alan Shatter if he will outline current legislation regarding the right of unmarried fathers to have access to their children; and the changes expected to this in view of the recent Children's referendum.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021300090?opendocument#WRV00150>

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

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Written Answers: Early Years Strategy

Deputy Barry Cowen asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs when the Early Years Strategy will be published; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dai/2013021300074?opendocument#WRE01050>

Dáil Éireann 12/02/2013 Written Answers: National Educational Welfare Board

Deputy Aengus Ó Snodaigh asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs subsequent to the elimination of the visiting teacher service for Travellers, the details of the number of Travellers assisted by the National Education and Welfare Board for the past year for which she has information and the educational outcomes therefrom; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dai/2013021200075?opendocument#WRY01150>

Joint Committee on Education and Social Protection Debate 13/02/2013 Digital Literacy: Discussion

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/commiteetakes/EDJ2013021300003?opendocument>

Dáil Éireann 12/02/2013 Written Answers: School Transport Provision

Deputy Patrick Deering asked the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairí Quinn if he intends reviewing the school transport system following last year's complications when siblings are transported to different schools and where children are walking up to two miles to get the bus while a bus to another school passes their home.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dai/2013021200060?opendocument#WRJ00150>

Dáil Éireann 12/02/2013 Written Answers: Pupil-Teacher Ratio

Deputy Brendan Griffin asked the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairí Quinn the number of posts cut from two, three and four teacher primary schools in the 2012/13 academic year due to the increase in pupil requirement thresholds as announced in Budget 2012; if he will state the total monetary savings achieved by this measure in 2012 and the anticipated savings for 2013; the number of posts that are anticipated to be cut in the 2013/14 academic year; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dai/2013021200059?opendocument#WRH00350>

Dáil Éireann 12/02/2013 Written Answers: School Enrolments

Deputy Finian McGrath asked the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairí Quinn if a catholic school is allowed to refuse a non-catholic child who lives in the parish a place in

their school; and if so, his views on whether this contravenes enrolment policies, which must be non-discriminatory, and the principles of equality.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debatesauthoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/take/dail2013021200059?opendocument#WRH02750>

Dáil Éireann 12/02/2013 Written Answers: Special Educational Needs

Deputy Robert Troy asked the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairí Quinn his plans for the education of children with autism; if he intends to support schools who exclusively cater for children with autism or if he envisages more units being attached to main stream schools; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/take/dail2013021200060?opendocument&highlight=school%20transport#WRJ03550>

Dáil Éireann 12/02/2013 Written Answers: Bullying in Schools

Deputy Joe McHugh asked the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairí Quinn with reference to the first National Action Plan on Bullying, if he envisages a role for the Health Service Executive within the implementation group; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021200060?opendocument#WRJ04550>

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

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Child and Family Support Agency

Deputy Tom Fleming asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the way she will justify salaries for the new position of head of organisation at €186,000 in the new section of her Department being devolved from the Health Service Executive, salaries of more than €100,000 for directors of services and a fixed term appointment for three year contract at €150,000 a year which is in breach of salary level for that job; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021300027?opendocument#Z00750>

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Early Years Strategy

Deputy Robert Troy asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald her plans to update the regulation of childcare and childminding; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021300024?opendocument#W00925>

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Written Answers: Foster Care Inspections

Deputy Gerry Adams asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald the number of allegations against foster carers currently being investigated by the Health Information and Quality Authority; the number of foster carers these allegations have been made against that have not been Garda vetted; the number of allegations of this nature that have been investigated by HIQA each year since its establishment; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021300073?opendocument#WRD00550>

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Written Answers: Proposed Legislation

Deputy Martin Ferris asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the legislation she plans to progress in 2013.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021300074?opendocument#WRE01250>

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Written Answers: Child and Family Support Agency

Deputy Charlie McConalogue asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs when she expects the new Child and Family Support Agency to be operational; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021300074?opendocument#WRE01450>

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Written Answers: Child and Family Support Agency

Deputy Peadar Tóibín asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she will outline proposals to transfer clinical psychologist posts from the Health Service Executive to the new Child and Family Support Agency; if she will detail the consultation and engagement with professional bodies and unions which have taken place in advance of this proposed move; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021300073?opendocument#WRD00150>

Seanad Éireann 13/02/2013 82% Child Care (Amendment) Bill 2013: Second and Subsequent Stages

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/seanad2013021300027?opendocument#DD00500>

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Written Answers: Aftercare Services

Deputy Aengus Ó Snodaigh asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she has fully considered the report of the National Director for Children and Family Services on the aftercare provision; if she will provide the opposition spokespersons with a copy of the report; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021300071?opendocument#WRB00350>

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Written Answers: Aftercare Services

Deputy Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald her plans to introduce a statutory right to aftercare for children leaving the care system.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack>

[.nsf/takes/dail2013021300096?opendocument#WRBB00050](http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021300096?opendocument#WRBB00050)

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Written Answers: Child and Family Support Agency

Deputy Brian Stanley asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she will outline the intended make up of the board of the Child and Family Support Agency; if she will confirm that a representative from the family resource centres will have full board membership; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021300071?opendocument#WRB01150>

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Magdalen Laundries: Motion

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021300052?opendocument>

Dáil Éireann 12/02/2013 Written Answers: Child and Family Support Agency

Deputy Ciara Conway asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she will provide details on the structure and model for the new Child and Family Support Agency; if she will confirm whether the CAFCASS in the UK has been used as a model; the extent to which this has been the case; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021200075?opendocument#WRY01350>

Dáil Éireann 12/02/2013 Written Answers: Youth Services

Deputy Aengus Ó Snodaigh asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the amount allocated and the subsequent out-turn for the Special Projects for Youth for 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013; and, within that budget, if he will list the allocation and subsequent out-turn for projects working with Travellers.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021200075?opendocument#WRY01950>

Dáil Éireann 12/02/2013 Written Answers: Child Care Services

Deputy Michael Lowry asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald if she will sanction funding to allow the continuation of the vital work of the child-minding development worker (details supplied) in County Tipperary; the reason for the cessation of funding for this post; the cost saving made by such; if her attention has been drawn to the impact this will have on child-minders in County Tipperary; if she will confirm what will happen to the programmes and activities put in place by this worker in County Tipperary; if an alternative support will be made available; if she will confirm if child-minders will be compelled to undertake Garda vetting; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021200075?opendocument#WRY00950>

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Written Answers: Youth Services

Deputy Bernard Durkan asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Information on Frances Fitzgerald the degree to which she continues to engage with youth organisations in the context of meeting the requirements of children and young people in general; if any particular issues have arisen wherein her Department may be able to make a positive intervention with particular reference to the impact of the on-going economic situation on young people; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021300094?opendocument#WRZ00950>

Family: Including adoption

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Adoption Legislation

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021300025?opendocument#X00450>

Dáil Éireann 12/02/2013 Written Answers: Inter-Country Adoptions

Deputy Charlie McConalogue asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she will outline the progress made to date that she has made concerning inter country adoptions; the progress that the Adoption Authority has made in relation to establishing administrative arrangements with the Hague countries regarding inter country adoptions; and if she will make a statement on the matter. . . .

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021200075?opendocument#WRY01550>

Dáil Éireann 12/02/2013 Written Answers: Adoption Services

Deputy Clare Daly asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the reason the State has not funded Helping Hands Adoption Mediation Agency, in accordance with Hague conditions that such organisations should be state funded, in order to avoid profiteering from adoptions.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021200075?opendocument#WRY01950>

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013: Inter-Country Adoption

Deputy Seán Ó Feargháil: I thank the Ceann Comhairle for giving me an opportunity to raise the important issue of international adoption, which affects hundreds of families across the country. I had thought the Minister of State, Deputy Kathleen Lynch, might be with us for this debate because she has had a long interest in this matter. Nonetheless, I am happy that the Minister of State, Deputy Costello, is here to advise us on the Helping Hands adoption agency. <http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021300033?opendocument#FF00400>

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Rights of Grandparents Bill 2013: First Stage

Deputy Derek Keating: I move:

That leave be granted to introduce a Bill entitled an Act to remove the obligation imposed on the grandparents of a child to first apply and obtain leave before exercising the right to apply for access to a grandchild, to regularise the day-to-day care of children in order to facilitate the development of a relationship or a bond between a grandparent and their grandchildren and persons in locus parentis where appropriate, to amend the Guardian of Infants Act 1964 and to provide for related matters.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021300008?opendocument#F04900>

Dáil Éireann 14/02/2013 Written Answers: Family Income Supplement Eligibility

Deputy Bernard Durkan asked the Minister for Social Protection Joan Burton when family income supplement will be approved and paid in the case of a person (details supplied) in County Kildare; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dai2013021400081?opendocument&highlight=family%20income%20supplement#WRO00550>

Child Abuse/Child Protection: including vetting, child abduction

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Written Answers: Child Protection

Deputy Bernard J. Durkan asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she will set out her proposals to enhance the extent of child protection measures throughout the country with particular reference to early intervention in situations of suspected child abuse of a physical and/or sexual nature; the extent to which adequate resources are available to her Department in line with assessments undertaken in this regard by her officials; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dai2013021300095?opendocument#WRAA00650>

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Written Answers: Child Protection

Deputy Mary Lou McDonald asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she will provide an update in her plans to place Children First on a statutory footing.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dai2013021300071?opendocument#WRB00150>

Dáil Éireann 12/02/2013 Written Answers: Garda Vetting Applications

Deputy Clare Daly asked the Minister for Justice and Equality Alan Shatter the safeguards that exist for somebody to challenge the soft evidence permitted in the 2012 Vetting Act, whereby Gardaí or the National Vetting Unit could make a disclosure which bypasses the courts; and the redress does an individual has to challenge these assertions.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dai2013021200071?opendocument#WRU02450>

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<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dai2013021200071?opendocument#WRU02450>

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

Joint Committee on Health and Children Debate 14/02/2013: Tackling Obesity

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/commiteetakes/HEJ2013021400003?opendocument>

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Written Answers: Mental Health

Deputy Bernard J. Durkan asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she will indicate, arising from her discussions with youth organisations and health service providers, the extent to which the issue of depression affecting young people has been examined; if it has been found possible to identify particular issues that might be addressed with a view to alleviation of the consequences of such depression; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021300095?opendocument#WRAA00150>

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Written Answers: Underage Drinking

Deputy Michael Moynihan asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the role her Department is playing in discouraging underage drinking; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021300071?opendocument#WRB00750>

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Written Answers: Bullying of Children

Deputy Timmy Dooley asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs her plans to tackle bullying; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021300071?opendocument#WRB00950>

Dáil Éireann 12/02/2013 Written Answers: National Carers Strategy

Deputy Jerry Buttimer asked the Minister for Health if all contributors to the National Carers' Strategy are listed in this document titled Submission to the National Carers' Strategy Process; if he will confirm whether the contributions centralised and collated; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021200075?opendocument#WRY01950>

Dáil Éireann 14/02/2013 Other Questions: National Children's Hospital

Deputy Barry Cowen asked the Minister for Health James Reilly the reason he has left 12 seats vacant on the board to develop the National Children's Hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debatesauthoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021400064?opendocument#MMM00450>

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013: Suicide Prevention

Deputy Dan Neville: I thank the Ceann Comhairle for allowing me to raise this issue.

While the connection between alcohol abuse, suicide, attempted suicide and self-harm is internationally recognised, it is not highlighted often enough. Alcohol dependence often leads to social decline and isolation, which is a potent cause of suicide. Alcohol dependence leads to loss of self-esteem and, hence, depression. These psychological changes predispose people to suicide. . . .

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021300032?opendocument#EE00800>

Child Benefit/Social Welfare/Poverty/Housing

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Written Answers: Youth Homelessness Strategy

Deputy Pearse Doherty asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald when she intends to launch the review of the 2001 Youth Homelessness Strategy to be undertaken by the Centre for Effective Services; when she expects the CES to complete and submit its findings and recommendations; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dai2013021300073?opendocument#WRD00550>

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Written Answers: Youth Unemployment Measures

Deputy Bernard J. Durkan asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if her Department can take any particular initiatives arising from the consequences of youth unemployment; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dai2013021300095?opendocument#WRAA00450>

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Written Answers: Child Poverty

Deputy Bernard J. Durkan asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the degree to which lack of adequate housing and/or poverty is deemed to impact most particularly on children and adolescents; the extent to which it is anticipated such issues can be isolated and resolved; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dai2013021300095?opendocument#WRAA01050>

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Written Answers: Child Support

Deputy Michael McGrath asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she supports subsidised childcare over benefit; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dai2013021300071?opendocument#WRB00550>

Seanad Éireann 12/02/2013 Order of Business (Advisory Group on Tax and Social Welfare)

- [Senator Jillian van Turnhout]: I believe we have qualified on both counts that we are in the new year. I refer to the report of the Advisory Group on Tax and Social Welfare chaired by Ita Mangan. The Minister, Deputy Burton, challenged us to examine the facts of this report and gave an undertaking in this House to publish the report early in the new year. My question is when that report will be published. Yesterday a report from the Consumers' Association of Ireland showed there has been a 12% rise in the cost of a typical basket of groceries. We have seen a very brutal cut across the board in child benefit payment. I am willing to take some tough decisions on child benefit but let us see this report and let the discussion begin. I do know why it has taken so long for it to be published. . . .

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/seanad2013021200005?opendocument>

Dáil Éireann 12/02/2013 Written Answers: Child Benefit

Deputy Pearse Doherty asked the Minister for Social Protection Joan Burton if he will confirm the total expenditure on child benefit in January 2013 as recorded in the

January 2013 Exchequer Statement and if he will provide the equivalent figure for January 2012.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021200065?opendocument>

Justice Issues / Human Rights/Equality

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Other Questions: Child Detention Centres

Deputy Thomas P. Broughan asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs in line with the requirements of the judgement in the case of Health Service Executive v WR (Neutral Citation (2007) IEHC 459) that the HSE would, among other things, undertake to conduct a process of identifying need for special care and high support by December 2007 and that it would produce a report on an annual basis in July of each year dealing with the manner in which the needs of young persons at risk were being fulfilled in the provision of these services, if annual reports of this kind have been published by the HSE; and if so, the locations at which copies may be obtained; and if such reports have not been published, the reasons for non-publication.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021300026?opendocument>

Dáil Éireann 12/02/2013 Written Answers: Human Rights and Equality Commission

Deputy Aengus Ó Snodaigh asked the Minister for Justice and Equality Alan Shatter the proposed budget allocation in 2013 for the combined Equality Authority and Irish Human Rights Commission; and the outturn for their budgets in 2012.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021200072?opendocument#WRV00850>

Dáil Éireann 12/02/2013 Written Answers: Traveller Community

Deputy Aengus Ó Snodaigh asked the Minister for Justice and Equality Alan Shatter the allocation and subsequent outturn for the budget heading equality monitoring in his Department for 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 and the allocation for 2013, with details of all projects funded, in each year.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021200072?opendocument#WRV01050>

Seanad Éirean 14/02/2013 Order of Business: Constitutional Convention

Senator Ivana Bacik: . . . I also welcome the fact that this weekend we will have the second session of the Constitutional Convention. Colleagues on both sides will be represented at it. This weekend we will debate a number of references in the Constitution to the place of women in the home and the duties of mothers in the home. They are highly outdated provisions which are long overdue for replacement. . .

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/seanad2013021400003?opendocument&highlight=constitutional%20convention>

Dáil Éireann 12/02/2013 Written Answers: Constitutional Amendments

Deputy Finian McGrath asked the Minister for Justice and Equality Alan Shatter if he will

provide an update on future plans regarding marriage for same sex couples.<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021200071?opendocument#WRU01650>

Dáil Éireann 12/02/2013 Written Answers: Domestic Violence Policy

Deputy Brendan Griffin asked the Minister for Justice and Equality Alan Shatter his plans to introduce reforms of current laws which will improve safety for victims of domestic violence; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021200071?opendocument#WRU01650>

Dáil Éireann 12/02/2013 Written Answers: Civil Partnerships

Deputy Brian Walsh asked the Minister for Justice and Equality Alan Shatter if he will provide an update in relation to the preparation of the Family Relationships and Children's Bill; and if he envisages that it will afford legal recognition to the relationship between the children of one partner and the other in a civil partnership.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021200071?opendocument>

Dáil Éireann 13/02/2013 Written Answers: Juvenile Offenders

Deputy Bernard Durkan asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald the extent to which her Department expects to examine issues surrounding juvenile offenders with particular reference to identifying the social and/or economic contributory factors; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013021300094?opendocument#WRZ00750>

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