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1. This week in the Oireachtas (08-12 July 2013)

<http://www.oireachtas.ie/viewdoc.asp?DocID=23990&&CatID=60>

2. Oireachtas Questions and Debate (01-05 July 2013)

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

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Early Child Care Education Issues (4 Jul 2013)

Michael Moynihan (Cork North West, Fianna Fail): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs when the early years strategy will be brought forward; the reason for the delay in this happening; the financial package that will accompany same; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.49>

Seanad: Adjournment Matters: Child Care Services Provision (4 Jul 2013)

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/sendebates/?id=2013-07-04a.447>

Other Questions: Child Care Services Provision (4 Jul 2013)

Niall Collins (Limerick, Fianna Fail): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the way she proposes to improve the quality and qualifications of the workforce in child care facilities with specific emphasis where services are being provided in the age groups zero to six years; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/debates/?id=2013-07-04a.357>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Child Care Services Regulation (4 Jul 2013)

Dara Calleary (Mayo, Fianna Fail): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs her plans to improve the regulation of childminders; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.14>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Child Care Reports (4 Jul 2013)

Mary Lou McDonald (Dublin Central, Sinn Fein): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the measures she will introduce to bring current child care regulations into line with the standards that all service-user parents, and Irish society generally, expect; the staffing levels, training and oversight requirements she proposes to apply; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.60>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Child Care Services Regulation (4 Jul 2013)

Derek Keating (Dublin Mid West, Fine Gael): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs when she plans to introduce regulations for childminders in the home. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.94>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Child Care Services Funding (4 Jul 2013)

Aengus Ó Snodaigh (Dublin South Central, Sinn Fein): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs her view of the economic importance of investment in early intervention, in particular in the early years; and if she will provide an update on capital funding available to child care providers in 2013. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.125>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: Child Care Guidelines (3 Jul 2013)

Séamus Kirk (Louth, Fianna Fail): To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if he is satisfied with the implementation of Síolta and Aistear; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-03a.82>

Written Answers — Department of Social Protection: After-School Support Services (2 Jul 2013)

Dessie Ellis (Dublin North West, Sinn Fein): To ask the Minister for Social Protection the reason Ballymun, Dublin, was not chosen as an area in respect of new after-school child care scheme; and if it will be included in future plans. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-02a.984>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Early Child Care Education Issues (2 Jul 2013)

Robert Troy (Longford-Westmeath, Fianna Fail): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the estimated cost of implementing the Workforce Development Plan for the early childcare sector; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-02a.1493>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Child Care Services Provision (2 Jul 2013)

Robert Troy (Longford-Westmeath, Fianna Fail): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she will provide in tabular form the number of children under six availing of registered child care facilities; the number of children in each different age group in same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-02a.1545>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Child Care Qualifications (2 Jul 2013)

Robert Troy (Longford-Westmeath, Fianna Fail): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she will provide in tabular form the total number of personnel employed in registered child care facilities; the detail of the formal accredited qualifications of personnel that is FETAC and HETAC level in same; the numbers without formal accredited qualifications in same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-02a.1548>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: School Transport Eligibility (2 Jul 2013)

Paul Connaughton (Galway East, Fine Gael): To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the options in terms of school transport that are open to atheist families where the only secondary school in their catchment area is Roman Catholic where their children will be excluded from some religious school activities; if children from these families can avail of the nearest school transport to a secondary school that respects their value system; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-02a.674>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: School Transport Provision (2 Jul 2013)

Richard Boyd Barrett (Dún Laoghaire, People Before Profit Alliance) To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if he will consider a free school bus service across the cities of Ireland in the interest of the environment and traffic congestion; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-02a.878>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: School Curriculum (2 Jul 2013)

Patrick O'Donovan (Limerick, Fine Gael): To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if he will consider changes and revisions to the SPHE curricula to provide for a greater level of assistance and support for children in relation to the issue of cyber bullying, its impact and consequences; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-02a.875>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: Traveller Community Issues (3 Jul 2013)

Michael Colreavy (Sligo-North Leitrim, Sinn Fein): To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if it is appropriate for the statistics section of his Department to contact schools to request in writing from the parents of traveller children confirmation of their ethnic status in order to qualify for the higher capitation grant; if he considers this method of data collection at odds with the concept of integrating traveller children into a mainstream school setting. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-03a.76>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: School Completion Programme (3 Jul 2013)

Joan Collins (Dublin South Central, People Before Profit Alliance): To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his views on the proposals put forward by the SCP co-ordinator of the Dominican Campus School Completion Programme with the support of the three primary schools; if he has considered the proposals and when he will respond to the proposals. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-03a.101>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Early Child Care Education Issues (4 Jul 2013)

Michael Moynihan (Cork North West, Fianna Fail): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs when the early years strategy will be brought forward; the reason for the delay in this happening; the financial package that will accompany same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.49>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: Special Educational Needs Services Provision (4 Jul 2013)

Patrick O'Donovan (Limerick, Fine Gael): To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if he will provide an update on discussions he has had with parents of children with Down's syndrome in relation to the provision of special needs assistants and resource hours. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.336>

Priority Questions: Special Educational Needs Services Provision (3 Jul 2013)

Catherine Murphy (Kildare North, Independent): To ask the Minister for Education and Skills how he expects to update the plan for implementation of the Education For Persons with Special Educational Needs, EPSEN, Act to prioritise access for children with special needs to an individual educational plan in view of the reduction in such services in recent years and the increase in demand; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/debates/?id=2013-07-03a.546>

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

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Proposed Legislation (2 Jul 2013)

Finian McGrath (Dublin North Central, Independent): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she will confirm the date of publication for the Child and Family Support Agency Bill; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-02a.1514>

Priority Questions: Child Care Services Regulation (4 Jul 2013)

Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin (Cavan-Monaghan, Sinn Fein): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the steps she has taken to address the disturbing lack of management standards and the clear breaches of regulations exposed in the recent RTE "Prime Time" programme which focused on a number of crèches in the greater Dublin area; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/debates/?id=2013-07-04a.281#g282.q>

Priority Questions: Child Care Services Inspections (4 Jul 2013)

Robert Troy (Longford-Westmeath, Fianna Fail): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs her plans to improve the regulation and inspection of child care facilities; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/debates/?id=2013-07-04a.271#g272.q>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Children in Care (4 Jul 2013)

Pearse Doherty (Donegal South West, Sinn Fein): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the number of children in care who now have an allocated social worker; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.11>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Child and Family Support Agency Establishment (4 Jul 2013)

Sandra McLellan (Cork East, Sinn Fein): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if the required legislation for the establishment of the new child and family agency will be published in

early July and will commence its address in the Dáil before the impending summer recess; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.32>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Child and Family Support Agency Funding (4 Jul 2013)

Bernard Durkan (Kildare North, Fine Gael): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the extent to which she is satisfied regarding the availability of adequate resources within her Department to meet the full scale of responsibilities likely to fall within her remit with particular reference to the welfare of children and young adults; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.86>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Departmental Funding (4 Jul 2013)

John Halligan (Waterford, Independent): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she has undertaken or intends to undertake an analysis or impact study on the cumulative effects of the cuts in family support services, health services, guidance and mental health services, special needs assistants and resource hours and school completion programme on children and young persons in the areas catered for by the City of Dublin Youth Service Board; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.90>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Child Support Services (4 Jul 2013)

Bernard Durkan (Kildare North, Fine Gael): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she is satisfied regarding the availability of adequate resources to meet all aspects of children's support services deemed to be the responsibility of her Department, the degree to which she has identified any areas most sensitively in need of enhanced service at this time; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.676>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Child Protection Services (2 Jul 2013)

Jerry Buttimer (Cork South Central, Fine Gael): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she will provide an update on the reforms that are underway in child protection services; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-02a.1505>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Early Child Care Education Standards (2 Jul 2013)

Jerry Buttimer (Cork South Central, Fine Gael): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs her plans for independent oversight and monitoring of compliance with set standards in the provision of childcare and early childhood education services; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-02a.1508>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: EU Presidency Issues (4 Jul 2013)

Mary Lou McDonald (Dublin Central, Sinn Féin): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she will provide a report of her Department's activities as part of the recent Presidency of the EU; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.36>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Children in Care (4 Jul 2013)

Tommy Broughan (Dublin North East, Labour): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs her plans to allocate funding for increased provision of specialised services for children with severe behavioural difficulties here, such as those with very severe behavioural disorders, many of whom continue to be placed in specialist facilities outside Ireland; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.108>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Departmental Budgets (2 Jul 2013)

Jerry Buttimer (Cork South Central, Fine Gael) To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she will provide a report on her Department's capital programme for 2013; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-02a.1502>

Other Questions: Youth Services Funding (4 Jul 2013)

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/debates/?id=2013-07-04a.335>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Youth Services Funding (4 Jul 2013)

Martin Ferris (Kerry North-West Limerick, Sinn Fein) To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the efforts she is making to protect front-line youth services in view of funding cuts in the sector; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.68>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Youth Services Funding (4 Jul 2013)

Bernard Durkan (Kildare North, Fine Gael): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the extent to which she is satisfied regarding the availability of adequate funding for youth support services throughout the country; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.669>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Child and Youth Services (4 Jul 2013)

Bernard Durkan (Kildare North, Fine Gael): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the extent of any new initiatives she has in mind to address specific areas or deficiencies in respect of children and youth services, if she has identified any particular strategy in this regard; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.679>

Seanad: Adjournment Matters: Youth Services Provision (2 Jul 2013)

Youth Services Provision. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/sendebates/?id=2013-07-02a.442>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Children in Care (2 Jul 2013)

Patrick Nulty (Dublin West, Independent): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the position as of this month of the number of high support and or special care secure accommodation unit residential places in total here; if she will confirm the location of the facilities; if she will further confirm the up-to-date position as of this month regarding the number of children currently awaiting such a placement on the direction and or recommendation of a judge; the current average waiting time for a child to be provided with such a placement after the direction and or recommendation of a judge; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-02a.1520>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Inter-Country Adoptions (2 Jul 2013)

Derek Keating (Dublin Mid West, Fine Gael): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs when funding will be made available to Irish Adoption Agencies working with adoption agencies in the USA; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-02a.1529>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Aftercare Services (4 Jul 2013)

Sandra McLellan (Cork East, Sinn Fein): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the number of children during each month of 2012 and 2013 between the ages of 18 and 21 years who

were in receipt of aftercare services broken down by gender; the number of young persons broken down by gender during each of those same months who were receiving a service and details of what receiving a service means, including any provision of financial support, education supports, accommodation, or emotional supports. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.25>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: International Bodies Membership (4 Jul 2013)

Andrew Doyle (Wicklow, Fine Gael): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she will outline each international organisation, international agency or international body that Ireland is a member of that her Department or a State body or agency under the aegis of her Department is responsible for or co-responsible for; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.666>

Child Abuse/Child Protection: including vetting, child abduction

Priority Questions: Child Protection Issues (4 Jul 2013)

Robert Troy (Longford-Westmeath, Fianna Fail): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs when she expects to publish the Children First legislation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/debates/?id=2013-07-04a.298#g299.q>

Leaders' Questions (4 Jul 2013)

John Halligan (Waterford, Independent): Another shocking but all too familiar report on children at risk of neglect was published this week. The audit of the management of neglect cases in three parts of the country, including my own area of Waterford, covered the period 2005 to 2010 and highlighted what most Deputies working in their constituencies are already aware of, namely, the systematic and ongoing impact staffing embargoes and lost posts in the HSE are having on children at risk. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/debates/?id=2013-07-04a.5#g36>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Child Protection Services (4 Jul 2013)

Joe Higgins (Dublin West, Socialist Party): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs her views on the horrific occurrence of child abuse catalogued by Women's Aid; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.100>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Child Protection Issues (4 Jul 2013)

Jonathan O'Brien (Cork North Central, Sinn Fein): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the measures she will take to address the deficiencies in social work provision in Health Service Executive North Lee area; her plans to implement the recommendations arising from the Ombudsman for Children's Investigation of April 2013; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.139>

Topical Issue Debate: Child Care Reports (3 Jul 2013)

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/debates/?id=2013-07-03a.640>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Proposed Legislation (2 Jul 2013)

Finian McGrath (Dublin North Central, Independent): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she will confirm the date of publication for the Child and Family Support Agency Bill; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-02a.1514>

Priority Questions: Child Care Services Regulation (4 Jul 2013)

Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin (Cavan-Monaghan, Sinn Féin): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the steps she has taken to address the disturbing lack of management standards and the clear breaches of regulations exposed in the recent RTE "Prime Time" programme which focused on a number of crèches in the greater Dublin area; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/debates/?id=2013-07-04a.281>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Child Protection Services (4 Jul 2013)

Joe Higgins (Dublin West, Socialist Party): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs her views on the horrific occurrence of child abuse catalogued by Women's Aid; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.100>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Health Services Reports (4 Jul 2013)

Denis Naughten (Roscommon-South Leitrim, Independent): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs her views on the audit report which was produced on foot of a specific recommendation of a public inquiry into the Roscommon child care case; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.112>

Written answers: Missing Persons Hotline (4 Jul 2013)

Aodhán Ó Ríordáin (Dublin North Central, Labour) To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she will detail the way the new 116000 missing children's helpline will be advertised and promoted so that its presence will be widely known amongst children and their parents. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.118>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Cross-Border Co-operation (2 Jul 2013)

Jerry Buttimer (Cork South Central, Fine Gael): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the mechanisms that are in place for north-south cooperation in the areas of childcare and child protection; her plans to develop such cooperation; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-02a.1517>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Child Protection Issues (2 Jul 2013)

Robert Troy (Longford-Westmeath, Fianna Fáil): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if it is common practice for a supervision order to be taken out without the prior consultation or knowledge of the relevant parent or guardian; and if she will make a statement on the matter. www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-02a.1526

Child Benefit/Social Welfare/Poverty/Housing

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Child Poverty (4 Jul 2013)

Jonathan O'Brien (Cork North Central, Sinn Féin): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if she will set out and provide details on the process for the selection of the sites, programmes, interventions, and supports to be provided under the new area based approach to the child poverty initiative in 2013. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.46>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Child Poverty (4 Jul 2013)

Bernard Durkan (Kildare North, Fine Gael): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if her attention has been drawn to particular instances of youth poverty, the extent to which she and/or

her Department may be in a position to address such issues; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.682>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Child Poverty (4 Jul 2013)

Bernard Durkan (Kildare North, Fine Gael): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the degree to which lack of adequate of housing and-or poverty continues 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://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.694>

Written Answers — Department of Social Protection: Carer's Benefit Expenditure (4 Jul 2013)

Seán Ó Fearghaíl (Kildare South, Fianna Fail): To ask the Minister for Social Protection if she will outline any supports or measures which have been improved for carers in the home over the past year; if she will confirm that current supports will be retained going forward; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.395>

Written Answers — Department of Social Protection: One-Parent Family Payment Eligibility (2 Jul 2013)

Róisín Shortall (Dublin North West, Independent): To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of recipients of the one parent family payment who stand to lose or have lost their payment as a result of the changes in eligibility relating to the age of their children that take effect from 4 July 2013. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-02a.1091>

Written Answers — Department of Social Protection: Social Welfare Benefits Numbers (3 Jul 2013)

John Lyons (Dublin North West, Labour): To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of casual-part time employees in receipt of social welfare payments such as jobseeker's allowance, jobseeker's benefit and family income supplement, grouped by the 20 largest private sector employers and occupation type; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-03a.420>

Justice Issues/ Human Rights/Equality

Courts and Civil Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2013: Report and Final Stages (2 Jul 2013)

Read, in particular, the discussion around child complainants and the disclosure of counselling records <http://www.kildarestreet.com/sendebates/?id=2013-07-02a.464> and read the previous week's **Courts Bill 2013: Committee Stage (26 Jun 2013)** discussion, in particular Senator van Turnhout's proposed amendment regarding the disclosure of sexual assault counselling communications of children who are witnesses in criminal trials.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/sendebates/?id=2013-06-26a.222#g456>

Other Questions: Ombudsman for Children Reports (4 Jul 2013)

Several questions on the Ombudsman for Children 2012 Annual Report

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/debates/?id=2013-07-04a.344>

Written Answers — Department of Justice and Equality: Domestic Violence Policy (4 Jul 2013)

Bernard Durkan (Kildare North, Fine Gael): To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality in conjunction with his EU colleagues, the progress made in recent years with regard to tackling incidents of domestic violence within the jurisdiction, with particular reference to the growth in demand for

NGOs to provide services to women and children experiencing domestic violence; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.553>

Equal Status (Amendment) Bill 2013: Second Stage [Private Members] (2 Jul 2013)

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/debates/?id=2013-07-03a.830>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Traveller Community Issues (4 Jul 2013)

Tommy Broughan (Dublin North East, Labour): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs her plans to address the very poor E grade awarded to the Government in the Children's Rights Alliance Report Card 2013 for its unsatisfactory performance in relation to Traveller children; the positive plan of action she will put in place to improve the Government's performance regarding same; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.80>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Child Detention Centres (4 Jul 2013)

Mick Wallace (Wexford, Independent): To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the reasons for the delay in opening the National Children Detention Facility in Oberstown; if her attention has been drawn to recent comments by the Ombudsman for Children regarding resources and staff at Oberstown; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.121>

Written Answers — Department of Justice and Equality: Legal Aid Applications (3 Jul 2013)

Éamon Ó Cuív (Galway West, Fianna Fail): To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the reason that there are delays in giving new appointments to persons seeking the assistance of the Free Legal Aid Board; his plans to provide extra resources to eliminate these waiting lists; the average waiting time for an appointment from the board; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-03a.502>

Written Answers — Department of Health: Female Genital Mutilation (4 Jul 2013)

Bernard Durkan (Kildare North, Fine Gael): To ask the Minister for Health the position in regard to female circumcision in this jurisdiction; the extent to which both parents are required to give consent; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2013-07-04a.765>

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The Children's Rights Alliance is a coalition of over 100 organisations working to secure the rights of children in Ireland, by campaigning for the full implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. It aims to improve the lives of all children under 18, through securing the necessary changes in Ireland's laws, policies and services.

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