



## PRE-BUDGET SUBMISSION 2018

# Dementia Care Begins at Home Building a Community of Care

**Our Ask: Invest over €40 million towards community supports for people with dementia. The National Dementia Strategy provides for supports that will enable people with dementia to remain living well in their communities. Funding is now urgently needed to implement key elements of this Strategy.**

**€35  
Million**

Home care for people in the early to mid-stages of dementia and those with complex care needs, which must be built on year-on-year.

**€2.31  
Million**

33 Dementia Advisers at €70,000 per annum

**€1.92  
Million**

32 Dementia Care Coordinators at €60,000 per annum

**€852,000**

Six Dementia Friendly Community Coordinators at €60,000 per annum and resources to build community supports and initiatives

### About The Alzheimer Society of Ireland

A national non-profit organisation, The Alzheimer Society of Ireland is person centred, rights-based and grassroots led with the voice of the person with dementia and their carer at its core.

### Contact us:

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# Dementia Care Begins at Home

## Building a Community of Care

- **€35 million to develop and expand home care services**

Limited funding has been provided under the National Dementia Strategy for Intensive Home Care Packages for people with dementia. But there is an urgent need for current home care support services to be enhanced. This investment will be a first step in meeting the needs of people with dementia who want to live at home<sup>1</sup>.

- **€2.31 million to roll out a Dementia Adviser service across Ireland**

Dementia Advisers support individuals and their families throughout their dementia journey. In the absence of a pathway of care their advice and support is crucial. There are only eight Dementia Advisers covering 13 counties and demand is increasing, fuelled by a growth in awareness due to the HSE's Understand Together campaign.

- **€1.92 million to provide Dementia Care Coordinators in every HSE Local Health Office**

Case management is essential for quality dementia care<sup>2</sup>. The National Dementia Strategy includes a priority action of a key worker to coordinate the care of each person with dementia and promote their continuity of care, but this action has not received any funding.

- **€852,000 for a Dementia Friendly Communities project across Ireland**

The National Dementia Strategy emphasises the need for a 'whole community response' to dementia and the Understand Together campaign provides the foundation for this. Now Dementia Friendly Communities must be developed to provide this type of response through projects such as Alzheimer Cafés, social clubs, arts-based activities, family carer training and peer-led support groups.

## The Facts

- There are almost 55,000<sup>3</sup> people with dementia in Ireland and for every one person with dementia three others are directly affected<sup>4</sup>.
- Most people with dementia live at home (63%<sup>5</sup>).
- The number of people with dementia will rise to 68,216<sup>6</sup> in the next ten years.
- Ireland's first National Dementia Strategy was published in 2014. There are six priority areas within the Strategy and across these six areas are 14 priority actions<sup>7</sup>.

1 Donnelly, S., O'Brien, M., Begley, E. and Brennan, J. (2016). "I'd prefer to stay at home but I don't have a choice" Meeting Older People's Preference for Care: Policy, but what about practice? Dublin: University College Dublin.

2 Trépel, D. (2015) An Economic Analysis of Home Care Services for People with Dementia. Report independently prepared for The Alzheimer Society of Ireland

3 Pierce, M., Cahill, S. and O'Shea, E. (2014) Prevalence and Projections of Dementia in Ireland, 2011-2046. Dublin: Trinity College Dublin/NUIGalway/Genio.

4 Cahill, S., O'Shea, E. and Pierce, M. (2012) Creating Excellence in Dementia Care Report. Trinity College Dublin/NUIGalway.

5 Ibid.

6 Pierce, M., Cahill, S. and O'Shea, E. (2014) Prevalence and Projections of Dementia in Ireland, 2011-2046. Dublin: Trinity College Dublin/NUIG/Genio.

7 Department of Health (2014) The Irish National Dementia Strategy. <http://health.gov.ie/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/30115- National-Dementia-Strategy- Eng.pdf>

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