



PRE-BUDGET SUBMISSION 2019

Dementia Supports Across Ireland Building Communities of Care

Our Ask: Invest over €12 million towards community supports for people with dementia.

The National Dementia Strategy's mid-term review¹ acknowledges that people with dementia and their families are "still dealing with inadequate services and supports". It states that additional funding is required. Access to community dementia-specific services across Ireland is not equal. The level of service varies depending on where you live but no county in Ireland has an acceptable level of dementia support. The time to provide funding is now.

€7.415
Million

Starting to address the service gap by providing a minimum standard of community services in each county

€2.31
Million

33 Dementia Advisers at €70,000 per post per annum

€2.24
Million

32 Key Workers at €70,000 per post per annum

€852,000

Six Dementia Inclusive 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:

✉ email: advocacy@alzheimer.ie

🌐 alzheimer.ie

📘 [facebook.com/TheAlzheimerSocietyofIreland](https://www.facebook.com/TheAlzheimerSocietyofIreland)

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☎ National Helpline on 1800 341 341 is open six days a week
Monday to Friday 10am–5pm & Saturday 10am–4pm



Dementia Supports Across Ireland

Building Communities of Care

- **€7.415 for a minimum standard of community services in each county**

The National Dementia Strategy committed to identifying gaps in existing provision and prioritise areas for action. The HSE and the ASI mapped dementia specific community services across Ireland and found acute inequity of service between the counties. This clear geographic lottery shows that without delay funding must be provided so that each county can offer a minimum standard of community services.

- **€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, evidence shows that their advice and support is crucial. There are only eight Dementia Advisers covering 11 counties and demand is increasing, fuelled by a growth in awareness due to the HSE's Understand Together campaign.

- **€2.24 million to provide Key Workers in every HSE Local Health Office**

The National Dementia Strategy outlines a need for the coordinated care of each person with dementia and that continuity of care is promoted. The role of Key Worker is of paramount importance to assisting people to navigate complex care pathways and promoting a collaborative management plan for individual dementia care. It would be critical in supporting and facilitating an integrated approach to dementia care..

- **€852,000 for a Dementia Inclusive Community Coordinators across Ireland**

The National Dementia Strategy emphasises the need for a 'whole community response' to dementia and the HSE's Understand Together campaign provides the foundation for this Community Activation work. With that project nearing completion funding must be provided to continue to support the development of a dementia inclusive Ireland.

The Facts

- There are almost 55,000² people with dementia in Ireland and for every one person with dementia three others are directly affected³.
- Most people with dementia live at home (63%⁴).
- The number of people with dementia will rise to 68,216⁵ in the next ten years.
- Ireland's first National Dementia Strategy was published in 2014 and the Mid-Term Review in 2018. There are six priority areas within the Strategy and across these six areas are 14 priority actions⁶.

1 Department of Health (2018) Mid-term Review of the Implementation of the National Dementia Strategy, P. 27

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

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

4 Ibid.

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

6 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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