



## PRE-BUDGET SUBMISSION 2020

# Dementia Supports Across Ireland Still Asking, Still Waiting, Still Struggling

**Our Ask:** Invest €18.4m in community supports and home care for people with dementia

- **Still Asking** – People with dementia and their carers are still asking the Government why no county in Ireland has even a minimum standard of supports and services. The time to provide funding is now.
- **Still Waiting** – People with dementia and their carers are still waiting for equitable and fair access to the supports and services that they desperately need. The time for action is now.
- **Still Struggling** – People with dementia and their carers are still struggling on a daily basis, sometimes silently and painfully, due to the lack of services and supports. The time to end this struggle is now.

**€7.415**  
Million

Urgently fund the service gap by **providing a minimum standard of community services**

**€1.68**  
Million

Increase the number of Dementia Advisers so that **people diagnosed with dementia have access to this crucial support.**

**€6**  
Million

**Expand the number of Intensive Home Care Packages** available to people with dementia.

**€2.31**  
Million

Fund the role of Dementia Key Workers to **provide a care pathway for each person with dementia.**

**€1**  
Million

Increase the number of Dementia Inclusive Community Coordinators to continue to **support the development of a dementia inclusive Ireland.**

### About The Alzheimer Society of Ireland

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



# Dementia Supports Across Ireland

## Still Asking, Still Waiting, Still Struggling

- **€7.415 million to provide a minimum standard of community services in each county**  
The HSE and The Alzheimer Society of Ireland mapped dementia specific community services across Ireland and found acute inequity of service between counties. This investment would triple the number of services and supports available, including an increase of 13 day centres and 118 Alzheimer cafés.
- **€1.68 million to increase the number of Dementia Advisers available**  
Dementia Advisers support people and their families with information, advice and signposting throughout their dementia journey. There are only nine Dementia Advisers covering 11 counties yet demand is increasing fuelled by a growth in awareness due to the HSE's Dementia: Understand Together campaign. This investment would mean that families in every county in Ireland have access to a Dementia Adviser.
- **€6 million to develop and expand the number of Intensive Home Care Packages available**  
Intensive Home Care Packages (IHCP) are responsive and flexible so they meet the often complex care needs of people with dementia. There is an acute need for more IHCPs to enable people with dementia to stay at home. This investment would double the number of packages available.
- **€2.31 million to fund the role of Dementia Key Workers**  
Dementia Key Workers assist people to navigate complex care pathways by providing a coordinated care plan for individuals, as emphasised in the National Dementia Strategy. The investment in this new role would, at a minimum, support people and their families through a difficult health system.
- **€1 million to resource Dementia Inclusive Community Coordinators across Ireland**  
Dementia Inclusive Community Coordinators build the capacity of communities to support people with dementia to remain involved and included for longer. Evidence has shown that the work of the HSE's Dementia: Understand Together campaign is combating the isolation and stigma of dementia. This investment is critical to ensure that this work can be enhanced and sustained.

### The Facts

- There are almost 55,000<sup>1</sup> people with dementia in Ireland and for every one person with dementia three others are directly affected<sup>2</sup>
- Most people with dementia live at home (63%<sup>3</sup>)
- No county in Ireland provides people with even a minimum standard of community services and supports
- The number of people with dementia will rise to 113,000<sup>4</sup> within the next twenty years

1 Pierce, M., Cahill, S. and O'Shea, E. (2014) Prevalence and Projections of Dementia in Ireland, 2011-2046. Dublin: Trinity College Dublin/NUIGalway/Genio.  
2 Cahill, S., O'Shea, E. and Pierce, M. (2012) Creating Excellence in Dementia Care Report. Trinity College Dublin/NUIGalway.  
3 Ibid.  
4 Pierce, M., Cahill, S. and O'Shea, E. (2014) Prevalence and Projections of Dementia in Ireland, 2011-2046. Dublin: Trinity College Dublin/NUIG/Genio.

### 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](mailto:advocacy@alzheimer.ie)
- 🌐 [alzheimer.ie](http://alzheimer.ie)
- 📘 [facebook.com/TheAlzheimerSocietyofIreland](https://www.facebook.com/TheAlzheimerSocietyofIreland)
- 🐦 [twitter.com/alzheimerSocIrI](https://twitter.com/alzheimerSocIrI)
- ☎ National Helpline on 1800 341 341 is open six days a week Monday to Friday 10am–5pm & Saturday 10am–4pm



THE ALZHEIMER  
SOCIETY of IRELAND