



PRE-BUDGET SUBMISSION 2022

Dementia: The Continuing Crisis

Our Ask: Invest €29.3m in urgent community and home supports for people living with dementia of all ages and their families.

There is a commitment to implement the National Dementia Strategy in the Programme for Government, people affected by dementia have been struggling to cope during COVID-19 and there is an increased need for supports and services.



€18
million

Invest €18m
in **Community
Day Services**

€6
million

Invest €6m in
**Home Care
Supports**

€2.3
million

Invest €2.3m
in **Family Carer
Support packages**

€1.5
million

Invest €1.5m
in **Dementia
Research**

€1
million

Invest €1m in
**Younger Onset
Dementia supports**

€500k

Invest €500k in
**Prevention through
Dementia Inclusive
Communities**

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.

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



Dementia: The Continuing Crisis

Our Ask: Invest €29.3m in urgent community and home supports for people living with dementia of all ages and their families.

1 €18m investment in Community Day Services

To enable the provision of dementia-specific Day Services to meet the current unmet need and provide capital investment for the provision of future needs. The ASI provides 82% of all dementia day care in Ireland. Capacity of the day centres that can re-open is now reduced and €3m is required to increase capacity to meet existing unmet need. Furthermore, 12 centres cannot re-open due to unsuitable building or sharing arrangements. €15m in capital investment is required to replace these to meet existing and future need.

2 €2.3m investment in Family Carer Support packages

To meet the need for practical and emotional support of family carers. Caring in Ireland was associated with poor health outcomes even before COVID-19 but research shows that this group now face immense difficulties. €2.3m is requested to provide a package of practical and emotional supports to Family Carers of People living with dementia who have shouldered a disproportionate workload over the COVID-19 Pandemic. This package will comprise (a) Family Carer Support Groups, (b) Family Carer Training Programmes and (c) Professional Counselling Services.

3 €1m investment in Younger Onset Dementia supports

To provide a suite of patient-led supports that meet the unique and additional needs of people living with younger onset dementia (YOD) and their families. €1m will allow provision for a flexible and person-led suite of tailored

services to people with YOD and their families and can encompass a range of supports across the trajectory of dementia. This might include YOD specific spaces, hiking clubs, information support (e.g. appointment with financial/legal advisor), family support, counselling etc.

4 €6m investment in Dementia Home Care Supports

To provide home care that is dementia appropriate and can meet existing and growing demand. This is crucially needed and the investment made in Budget 2021 must be built on to support this.

5 €1.5m investment in Dementia Research

To build capacity for 'Research Readiness' in Ireland for new developments in drug therapies, and to support research infrastructure. Recent and upcoming developments in disease-modifying therapies require both research readiness and infrastructure such as the TeamUp For Dementia Research database that links participants and researchers. €1.5m will support dementia researchers to explore and develop programmes of work to ensure that services, supports and therapies are readily available to people with and at risk of dementia.

6 €500,000 investment in prevention via Dementia Inclusive Communities

To run a Public Brain Health Campaign focused on the nine modifiable risk factors of dementia. Modifiable risk factors might prevent or delay up to 40% of dementias but this information is not widely known among the public. Dementia: Understand Together is optimally placed to develop and implement this campaign through the Dementia Inclusive Communities partnership initiative.

The Facts

- There are almost 64,000¹ people with dementia in Ireland and for each person with dementia three others are directly affected².
 - During the COVID-19 crisis, 81% of family carers were concerned about a decline in the person with dementia, while 61% of carers believe their own mental health has declined³.
 - Most people with dementia live at home (63%)⁴.
 - No county in Ireland provides people with even a minimum standard of dementia community services and supports.
 - The number of people with dementia will rise to 113,000⁵ within the next twenty years.
- 1 Health Atlas Ireland, 2020.
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 The Alzheimer Society of Ireland, (2020) Caring and Coping with Dementia During COVID-19 <https://alzheimer.ie/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/ASI-Follow-Up-Covid-Report-Final.pdf>
4 Cahill, S., O'Shea, E. and Pierce, M. (2012) Creating Excellence in Dementia Care Report. Trinity College Dublin/NUIGalway.
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.

Contact us:

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- 🐦 twitter.com/alzheimerSocIrl
- 📞 National Helpline on 1800 341 341 is open six days a week Monday to Friday 10am–5pm & Saturday 10am–4pm



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