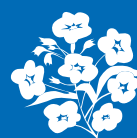


PRE-BUDGET SUBMISSION 2027

A Clear Path to Better Community Supports

Building a Dementia-Inclusive Ireland



THE Alzheimer
SOCIETY OF IRELAND

Budget 2027 offers a critical opportunity to the Government to meet the ever-increasing demand for dementia services in Ireland. Every day, The Alzheimer Society of Ireland (The ASI) is working at a community level to address the needs of people living with dementia and family carers so that they can live well at home for as long as possible.

Through focused dementia supports and strategic alignment with the Programme for Government, The ASI will continue to play a vital role in shaping dementia policy and funding in the year ahead. This will help ensure that people living with dementia receive care and support tailored to their individual needs, within their own communities.

The investment required will improve availability and access to appropriate supports at every stage of the dementia journey. We are confident that, with the support of elected representatives, this eight-point plan can make a real difference for people living with dementia and their families.

The ASI is urging the Government to invest €8,238,730 in dementia in Budget 2027



€240,000
Develop New
Dementia-Specific
Day Care Centres



€716,100
Increase Day Care
At Home Supports



€210,080
Fund Activity Clubs
For Younger-Onset &
Early-Stage Dementia



€75,000
External
Evaluation Of
Activity Clubs



€100,000
Expand Capacity
In Existing Day
Care Centres



€629,000
Expand Our
Dementia Adviser
Service



€6,163,200
Increase Investment
In Dementia-Specific
Home Care Support



€105,350
Expand Maintenance
Cognitive Stimulation
Therapy

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1. Develop New Dementia-Specific Day Care Centres

€240,000 | Develop 5 New Day Care Centres | 40 Clients/Week | 2,000 Annual Attendances

Dementia-specific Day Centres are vibrant community hubs that offer a warm, welcoming environment where people living with dementia can connect, stay active, and thrive beyond the home. An investment of €240,000 will fund five new one-day, day care centres where the demand is greatest.

2. Expand Capacity in Existing Day Care Centres

€100,000 | Expand 3 Existing Day Care Centres | 20 Clients Per Week | 2,500 Annual Attendances



To further strengthen community connections through social interaction and structured, person-centred activities, The ASI is seeking €100,000 to expand capacity across three existing day care services: Bessboro, Blackrock, Cork City; Whistlemount, Navan, Co. Meath; and Bethany House, Co. Carlow. This investment will support an additional 20 clients per week, delivering approximately 2,500 annual attendances across the three locations.



3. Increase Day Care at Home Supports

€716,100 | Deliver 21,700 Hours | 173 New Clients

Day Care at Home is a specialist dementia service delivered by trained care workers who provide one-to-one, person-centred support to individuals living with dementia. The support is activity-based, focusing on stimulation and social interaction. The proposed expansion would support service provision across the country, targeting areas of greatest need and helping to address regional inequities in access.

4. Increase Investment in Dementia-Specific Home Care Support

€6,163,200 | 180,000 Additional Home Care Hours Ringfenced for Dementia



People living with dementia have diverse and complex needs when it comes to homecare. Dementia-specific home support provides person-centred, consistent and continuous care. This care is designed and delivered in partnership with the person living with dementia and their family carer, ensuring support is tailored, responsive and respectful of individual needs.



5. Expand the Dementia Adviser Service

€629,000 | Deliver 8 Dementia Advisers

Dementia Advisers deliver a locally based, personalised service that provides information, signposting, and emotional support to people concerned about their cognitive health, as well as those with a diagnosis of dementia, throughout their journey. The ASI is seeking funding to recruit eight additional Dementia Advisers strengthening access to this vital support nationwide.

6. Fund Activity Clubs for Younger-Onset and Early-Stage Dementia

€210,080 | Deliver 10 Activity Clubs



Activity Clubs are among the most valuable social supports for people living with young-onset and early-stage dementia. They provide safe, inclusive, and engaging environments where participants can take part in a wide range of enjoyable and therapeutic activities that enhance wellbeing and quality of life. These include art therapy, music sessions, gardening, and tailored social events and outings.



7. External Evaluation of the Activity Clubs

€75,000 | Evidence-based Assessment | Ascertain Full Impact

An external evaluation would provide a clear, evidence-based assessment of the impact of the Activity Clubs.

Using a supportive and non-intrusive approach, it would gather feedback from staff, participants, and advocates to build a comprehensive picture of the service.

8. Expand Maintenance Cognitive Stimulation Therapy (MCST)

€105,350 | Deliver 10 Programmes



Cognitive Stimulation Therapy (CST) is an evidence-based, non-pharmacological intervention that supports cognitive function and enhances quality of life for people living with dementia. It combines structured cognitive activities with meaningful social interaction; all delivered within a person-centred framework. MCST sessions are planned to follow on from the completion of the 14-session (seven-week) CST programme and run once weekly over a 24-week period. MCST extends the benefits of the CST over time, helping to sustain engagement and wellbeing.



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