



**All in  
Against  
Cancer**

Annual Report  
2023

It's our privilege to lead this great organisation in its 60th year. Our history shows what this community can achieve.

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# Sarah

Read Sarah Egan's story on page

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# Daniel

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# Margaret

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# Colm

Read Colm Murphy's story on page

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# Vision, mission and values



Patient advocate Robyn Howell and daughter Milani Tuite launch the Irish Cancer Society's Relay for Life Celebrate & Remember event at the Aviva Stadium

## Vision

By 2025, 3 out of 4 Irish cancer patients will survive their diagnosis and everyone affected by the disease will have access to world-class treatment, care and support.

In future, no one in Ireland will die from cancer.

## Mission

The Irish Cancer Society is a community of patients, survivors, volunteers, supporters, health and social care professionals and researchers.

Together, we are working to save lives and improve the lives of people affected by cancer in Ireland.

## Values

### We are compassionate and caring.

Everyone's cancer journey is individual and we reflect that in everything we do. From the time you are diagnosed, right through to treatment and beyond, we provide personal support that is right for you.

### We are inclusive.

Whoever you are and wherever you come from, we are here for you. We are working hard to ensure that everyone in Ireland has the same access to care and support during their cancer journey.

### We demand excellence from ourselves and others.

We are constantly demanding more of ourselves and others on your behalf. We always believe there is room for improvement and we strive for excellence in all we do. Our services and decisions are informed by best quality knowledge, data and expertise.

### We value collaboration.

Collaborating and working in partnership with world-class medical professionals, researchers, organisations and supporters helps us to deliver more. We want to be inspired and to improve by challenging ourselves and by benchmarking ourselves against world-class results.

We build alliances and work with local communities and global partners to deliver best results.

### We are accountable and transparent.

We work to the highest standards of governance and financial management. This means we are honest, ethical and efficient in our work. We hold ourselves accountable for the delivery of our goals and objectives.

### We support sustainability.

We care about our communities and environment. We strive to be a sustainable organisation and minimise our impact on the world around us.





## Brid & Averil

### Message from our Chair and CEO

**2023 was another year of growing demands and achievements for the Irish Cancer Society. We supported record numbers of patients through our services, as demand and need grew substantially. We achieved changes – such as abolishing in-patient charges – for which we campaigned for years. We continued our immense breadth of work – researching, advocating and supporting at every stage of the cancer experience.**

Record levels of impact only happen when we have record levels of support. 2023 saw one of our highest fundraised income levels in our history, thanks to the incredible generosity and commitment of the public, our supporters, partners, volunteers and staff.

Thanks to this generosity we met record demands across most of our core services. Our Support Line and Daffodil Centres provide patients, family members and the public with a confidential, non-judgmental space to get expert advice, information and support from our cancer nurses. The need for these services has risen, with 36% more conversations taking place in our Daffodil Centres in 2023 than in 2022. Overall, 6,500 more conversations took place in our Daffodil Centres and on our Support Line in 2023 as compared to 2022.

Our Transport Services, which provide patients with free lifts to cancer appointments, has also grown substantially to meet the needs of patients. With over 30% more drives in 2023 than in 2022, we transported more patients to more appointments than ever before.

As we look to the rest of 2024, we expect these needs and demands to continue to grow. That's a real challenge for us in the Irish Cancer Society, to ensure we can be there to meet those needs. As demand for

**2023 saw one of our highest fundraised income levels in our history, thanks to the incredible generosity and commitment of the public, our supporters, partners, volunteers and staff.**

our work increases, we must grow our income to match. Only about 5% of our income comes from Government; everything else is raised each year from the public, corporate partners, supporters and charity shops around the country.

Once again in 2023 we were able to grow our income, thanks to this generosity and the work of our staff and volunteers. Maintaining this growth is one of our biggest challenges, and a key strategic focus for us to sustain and build on our services and progress.

Our 2020-2025 strategy, first developed when COVID-19 wasn't even in our vocabulary, plans for growth in demand and increased needs of cancer patients and set out how the Society can step up to grow our income, grow our reach, and meet those needs.

As 2023 marked the half-way point for this strategy, we conducted a mid-strategy review to take stock of how things changed, what we achieved, and what we need to deliver in the years to come. This strategy remains fit-for-purpose and continues to set the right direction for our work. When it was developed, more people than ever were being diagnosed with cancer, and (thankfully) more people were surviving cancer. We sought to further increase survival rates, reduce the inequalities experienced, and ensure that supports and services are in place for survivors to live well after a cancer diagnosis.

Over the course of our strategy so far, we have made good progress in areas such as increasing supports and services available for children and young people affected by cancer; increasing survivorship research, supports and services; investing in pioneering world-class partnerships and research; and increasing awareness of our supports. We adapted as needed to mitigate some of the challenges of the last few years, in particular by establishing our Your Health Matters roadshows to increase cancer awareness and early detection; and advocating for practical improvements in the lives of people affected by cancer.

In developing our strategy in late 2019, we set an ambitious vision that by 2025, 3 out of 4 Irish cancer patients would survive their diagnosis and everyone affected by the disease would have access to world-class treatment, care and support. In 2019, that was ambitious but possible. Now, although we won't give up, it is less likely that the target of 3 in 4 will be achieved by 2025. Despite our best efforts, the impact and legacy of COVID-19 and underinvestment by Government in the National Cancer Strategy have pushed it further out of reach.

We now need to refocus political attention on bringing that day closer. The Society's advocacy, with the support of patients and clinicians, has already delivered great impact in the last few years – from maintaining services through COVID-19 to abolishing inpatient charges. A key focus for us in 2024 will be to build on our advocacy efforts, to make cancer the top issue for all politicians and policy makers, especially as we get closer to a general election. We will also continue to directly play our part, by investing in life-changing cancer research and delivering essential supports and services.

The Irish Cancer Society community can make an impact – we already have – but we can't, and won't, stop until we secure the full funding and resources needed for world-class treatment, care and support for all Irish patients.

2023 was also the year the Irish Cancer Society turned 60 years old, a cause for reflection and celebration. No-one ever wants to hear the words "you have cancer", but hearing those words in 2023 people have so much more hope of living, and living well, beyond those words, than those who heard them 60 years ago. By funding cancer research and trials, raising awareness of cancer, campaigning for change, and establishing vital supports and services, this Society and our community have been a huge part of that change for the better. We're not done yet, and we definitely won't rest, but we are thankful for how far we've come.

For your role in the work of the Irish Cancer Society – as a patient, a survivor, a volunteer, a supporter, a donor, a partner, a clinician, a researcher, a member of our dedicated staff – thank you for everything that you do.

It's our privilege to lead this great organisation in its 60th year. Our history shows what this community can achieve. It gives us confidence that with the effort, commitment and power of us working together, we will see the day where no-one dies from cancer and everyone affected by it has the supports and services they need to live well.

**Brid Horan**  
Chair

**Averil Power**  
CEO



# Our impact in 2023

**22,100**

Drives to and from cancer treatment provided

⬆️ Up 31% from 2022

**6,850**

Nights of night nursing care provided to cancer patients

⬆️ Up 4% from 2022

**188**

Cancer researchers funded

⬆️ Up 35% from 2022

**9,900**

Freephone Support Line calls and emails answered

⬆️ Up 23% from 2022

**1,486,000**

Visits to cancer.ie

⬆️ Up 14% from 2022

**18,100**

Support conversations with our Daffodil Centre nurses

⬆️ Up 36% from 2022<sup>1</sup>

**1,800**

New patients participating in cancer trials recorded by Cancer Trials Ireland

⬆️ Up 21% from 2022<sup>2</sup>

**1,850**

Health checks conducted at our early detection roadshow

⬆️ Up 17% from 2022

**14,800**

Counselling sessions provided

Down 8% from 2022<sup>3</sup>

**€4.3m**

Investment in new cancer research

⬆️ Up 16% from 2022

**500**

New volunteers recruited

⬆️ Up 3% from 2022<sup>4</sup>

## Notes

All numbers greater than 500 are rounded to the nearest 50.

(1) Daffodil Centre nurses also conduct group and one-to-one patient education sessions, which are not included in this figure.

(2) This includes both CTI trials and non-CTI trials and is in addition to the thousands of patients in treatment or follow-up on trials which commenced in earlier years.

(3) Includes sessions provided through our direct network of remote counsellors, and counselling sessions delivered in the community through our funding.

(4) This does not include the thousands of Daffodil Day street sale volunteers or our shop volunteers (who are not yet recorded on our volunteer database).



Above: Students from John Scottus Primary School  
Below: Presenter Anna Daly and her father Noel launch Daffodil Day 2023







# Highlights 2023



## Trinity St James's Cancer Institute investment

A milestone development for the Irish Cancer Society took place during the first half of this year, as we announced our partnership with the Trinity St James's Cancer Institute. Through this partnership we will fund new programmes integrating scientific discovery with patient care. The aim is to pioneer novel ways to prevent, detect and treat cancer - in particular to address the rise in the incidence of gastrointestinal cancers among patients under fifty years of age. The five-year collaboration will see the Society invest €4.5 million in several exemplar programmes aimed at delivering a new model of cancer care for patients in Ireland.

## Leave Our Leave

The Irish Cancer Society welcomed Minister Roderic O'Gorman's announcement that he will legislate to enable women with cancer to defer their maternity leave until their treatment ends. This need for change was highlighted by our 'Leave Our Leave' campaign, which demonstrated the distressing impact this is having on women in Ireland. We would like to thank the many women and their families who have supported the 'Leave Our Leave' campaign, especially Erica Tierney, Mary Canavan, and Emma McGuinness. Thanks to them, when this change is implemented, other women will be spared this heartbreak.

## Right to be Forgotten

Following our 'Right to be Forgotten' advocacy campaign, the Society welcomed the publication by Insurance Ireland of the Code of Practice for cancer survivors seeking mortgage protection insurance and other insurance products. The Code of Practice will make it easier for cancer survivors to get mortgage protection insurance. We are delighted our campaign on this issue has led to a positive outcome for cancer survivors, particularly survivors of childhood cancer whose diagnosis could follow them well into adulthood. The Code of Practice means that anyone who was under 18 at the time of diagnosis will have their cancer 'forgotten' by the insurance industry after 5 years' remission. For adults, there is a 7-year waiting period.

## 'Your Health Matters' Roadshow

In 2023, our nurse-led community outreach initiative continued to provide free health checks in shopping centres around the country. The Roadshow aims to reduce people's risk of cancer and improve early detection rates. In 2023, the team had a record-breaking year, visiting shopping centres and corporate settings in 17 counties over 49 days in 28 locations. Our nurses conducted over 1,850 free health checks and had just under 24,000 engagements with the public.

## Daffodil Day 2023

Our 2023 Daffodil Day was our most successful in-person Daffodil Day yet, raising an incredible €5.8million. Our supporters' presence in every corner of Ireland, ensured every town and village turned daffodil yellow to raise millions of euros and give hope to people affected by cancer across Ireland.

## Relay For Life Celebrate and Remember 2023

What an incredible night we had at Relay For Life Celebrate and Remember 2023! The Aviva Stadium was alight with hope and community spirit as we came together to honour survivors across Ireland, pay tribute to those we have sadly lost, and support each other to realise our vision of an Ireland where no one dies from cancer. With performances from Shane Filan and Kiera Dignam among others and the first national Candle of Hope ceremony, which illuminated the stadium with thousands of heartfelt messages.



Shane Filan at Relay For Life launch, Aviva



# Irish Cancer Society

## Brand update

The Irish Cancer Society turned 60 in 2023; as part of this momentous year, we updated our logo and branding. We wanted to make more of the Daffodil as a recognisable symbol of everything the Irish Cancer Society stands for. The new logo represents the six pillars of the Society- cancer support services, volunteering, fundraising, cancer information, cancer research and cancer advocacy. We love the new logo, and we hope you do too! For sustainability, and to avoid waste, the new logo and branding will be rolled-out gradually.



# Report of the Board

## Our priorities

### Healthy living

#### Fewer preventable cancers

We will influence Government policy and laws so that everyone has the best chance of living a life free from cancer. We will invest in research that uncovers new ways to prevent cancer. We will provide advice to those who need it.

### Catching cancer early

#### More cancers caught early

We will give people the best chance of surviving cancer. We will lead advocacy campaigns, innovate services, fund research, and work in partnerships that will eliminate the survival gap between Ireland and other European countries.

### Treating cancer

#### World-class cancer treatment for everyone

We will lobby Government so that all cancer patients are given timely access to treatments that will work best for them. We will reduce the fear of cancer through our support services and invest in research that has the potential to transform lives.

### Living well

#### Living well after treatment

We will make sure the emotional, physical, financial and practical needs of those who have undergone cancer treatment are met. We will provide services that will directly support people, so they are better able to cope with the impact of cancer. We will undertake research that will help us improve cancer patients' quality of life.

### End-of-life care

#### Holistic support for people dying from cancer

We will ensure people dying from cancer have access to the full range of supports needed by them and their families. We will drive changes from Government that will mean more people can die at home. We will prioritise research that guides the development of our own supports and informs our advocacy to improve public services for people dying from cancer.



Fundraisers taking part in the 2023 VHI Women's Mini Marathon in June



# Strategic review

**At the Irish Cancer Society, we are working to a vision that by 2025, 3 out of 4 Irish cancer patients will survive their diagnosis and everyone affected by the disease will have access to world-class treatment, care and support. In future, no one in Ireland will die from cancer.**

As a community we strive to achieve this vision through our strategic priorities:

**Healthy living:** Fewer preventable cancers;

**Catching cancer early:** More cancers caught early;

**Treating cancer:** World-class cancer treatment for everyone;

**Living well:** Living well after treatment;

**End-of-life care:** Holistic support for people dying from cancer.

Progress will be made across all our priorities through our three pillars of activity: advocacy, services and research. This work is enabled by our fundraising efforts and having the right people, processes and technology in place to support our progress and performance.

## Strategic context

2023 was a year where the rising cost-of-living was to the fore across all our work. For cancer patients, who often have reduced income and increased expenses as a result of their diagnosis, the cost-of-living crisis takes a huge additional toll. Patients and families who spoke with our nurses throughout the year reported incredible financial pressures. Our funded research on energy costs highlighted heartbreaking situations where patients at end-of-life were dying in the cold, unable to heat their homes. In light of this pressure on patients and families, we placed a particular focus on alleviating the practical, financial and emotional burden of cancer in 2023, both through our direct services and supports and our advocacy efforts. This work is highlighted throughout this review.

2023 also marked the half-way point of our 2020-2025 strategy, and so we conducted a mid-point strategic review, evaluating progress against key themes. We have delivered significant progress in raising awareness of our work, advocating and providing services for cancer survivors, increasing our revenue and providing for the needs of children, teenagers and young adults affected by cancer.



Patient advocates Tara Doonan and actress Karen Egan launch the Big Pink Breakfast Campaign

**Our work is enabled by our fundraising efforts and having the right people, processes and technology in place to support our progress and performance.**



We also adapted over the course of the strategy, to meet the most urgent of priorities. The pandemic led to significant underdiagnosis of cancer, and we quickly stepped up in response. We have significantly increased our work on early detection through our awareness campaigns, Roadshows, and workplace and community outreach. This will remain a focus for us for the remainder of the strategic cycle, given its impact on survival and outcomes. We were heartened by NCRI figures published in December which indicate a return to expected rates of cancer diagnoses in 2022, after shortfalls in diagnoses in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic. However, we can't afford to take focus off this area as new challenges emerge. Our August survey, for example, found that one-third of people put off GP and hospital appointments due to either pressures in the health system or because they couldn't afford it.

The Society, and the cancer community as a whole, have faced significant challenges in the past three years. Underinvestment in the National Cancer Strategy has meant that Ireland has not progressed as far as we could in achieving world-class treatment, care and outcomes for everyone affected by cancer. This underinvestment comes at a time, with the legacy of the pandemic, when investment is needed more than ever. We will continue to do what we can to counter this impact, and to advocate for Government investment. Beyond that, we will also make investments ourselves, such as through our pilot programme with Trinity St James's Cancer Institute (TSJCI), so that we can demonstrate what world-class treatment can look like for Irish patients.

As part of the review, we also identified and adapted our goals for the remainder of the strategic cycle. A particular focus for us will be striving toward the goal of world-class treatment for everyone, working toward earlier detection, diagnosis and treatment for every patient. We will also continue to build on our new

services and investments made, so that they continue to operate effectively, and benefit patients, long into the future.

A lot has changed since the strategy was developed in early 2020, but the core elements of it remain relevant. We will continue to retain our focus on ensuring that we reach and support more people affected by cancer, and work to bring forward the day where more people live – and live well – after a cancer diagnosis.

### Achieving our 2023 goals

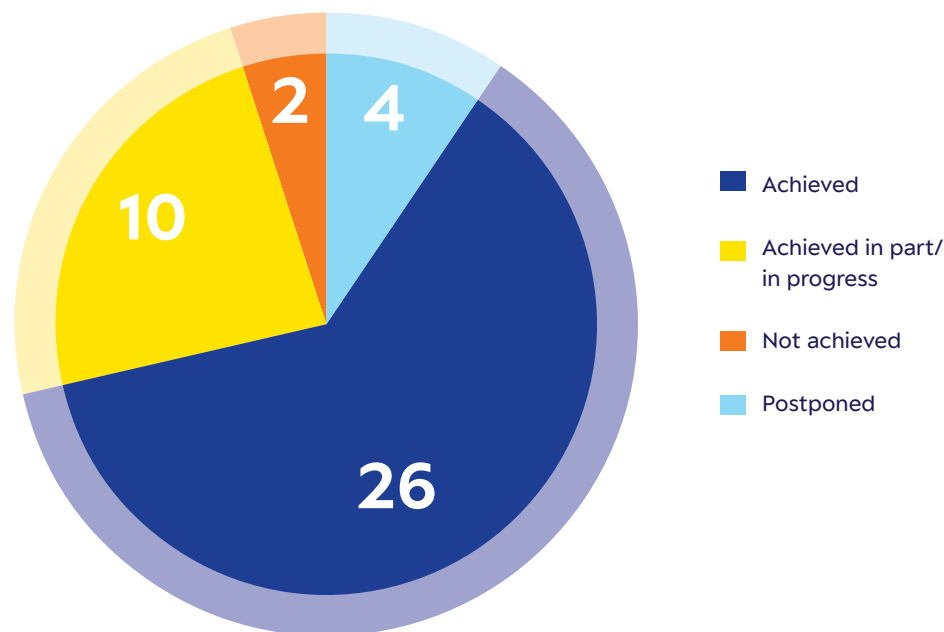
In our annual report 2022, we set 42 new objectives for 2023. Of these, we achieved 26 (62%), 10 (24%) were achieved in part or remain in progress, and two were not achieved. Four objectives set were postponed during 2023, as we decided not to proceed with them in response to the changing context.

Progress made against each of our 2023 objectives is detailed in the following sections of this report, under each of the strategic priorities.

**Objectives achieved:** Where goals are achieved in 2023, we will continue to work to build on this work into 2024 and beyond, until we can reach the day that no-one dies from cancer and everyone has access to world-class treatment, care and support.

**Objectives achieved in part/in progress:** Where objectives were achieved in part rather than in full, or remain in progress, this was typically where they are ongoing goals that we will continue to work on into 2024 and beyond.

**Objectives not achieved/ postponed:** This was typically where we made a choice to reprioritise and refocus our resources and energy toward new or more urgent challenges.



Relay for Life



# Healthy living

## Our Goal

**We are working for a future with fewer preventable cancers.**

## To achieve this

We will influence Government policy and laws so that everyone has the best chance of living a life free from cancer.

We will invest in research that uncovers new ways to prevent cancer.

We will provide advice to those who need it.

## The impact we had in 2023

Supporting people to quit smoking has always been our focus and we have continually highlighted that legislation alone won't help people give up smoking. In 2023, almost one in five people in Ireland smoked and prevalence hasn't reduced since 2019 (Healthy Ireland, 2023). Practical Government supports for people to help make the healthy choice the easy (or easier) choice are vital. Arising from years of advocacy by the Irish Cancer Society and other health charities, in 2023 the HSE introduced free nicotine replacement therapies (NRT) from local stop smoking clinics as part of a package of supports on offer to people who quit smoking through the HSE QUIT service.

After much campaigning by the Society, the Public Health (Tobacco Products and Nicotine Inhaling Products) Bill 2023 was introduced in 2023, which included a number of measures to regulate vaping and e-cigarettes. The aim of the Bill is to attempt to prevent children from taking up smoking or vaping. We were pleased with the immediate enactment of the provisions to ban the sale of vapes to under 18 year-olds. We will continue to advocate for the speedy enactment of other provisions, such as restrictions on advertising and sale, and improved licencing for sellers, as well as additional regulations, such as restriction on flavours which target young people.

Alcohol is attributable to 1,000 cases of cancer in Ireland every year. The Society is part of the Alcohol Health Alliance Ireland, through which we campaign for appropriate regulation of alcohol so that people can make informed choices to reduce their cancer risk. After progress in 2022 in alcohol regulations, including minimum unit pricing, we were focused in 2023 to ensure full implementation of the Public Health (Alcohol) Act. Our advocacy, with the Alcohol Health Alliance Ireland, meant that regulations were signed in May 2023 that means health warnings can be placed on alcohol products.

Our approach is to integrate cancer prevention with awareness and early detection across our work. Our 'Your Health Matters' Roadshows, explained further in the next section, support people to make healthy choices and reduce cancer risk alongside our early detection objectives. Additionally, we offer cancer awareness and prevention talks in the community to groups and workplaces and deliver public awareness campaigns.

## Skin cancer is the most common cancer type in Ireland with over 13,000 new cases diagnosed every year.

Men's Health Week in June, was one example of this multi-stranded approach. We engaged with the Men's Health Forum to plan and deliver the national campaign, delivered 14 presentations throughout the week to men's groups and workplaces, and delivered a social media campaign encouraging others to live healthier lifestyles and be aware of the signs and symptoms of cancer.

Skin cancer is the most common cancer type in Ireland with over 13,000 new cases diagnosed every year. The Irish Cancer Society is a member of the national skin cancer strategy implementation group, and in 2023 we welcomed the new 2023-2026 national skin cancer prevention plan. Outdoor workers are a group at particular increased risk, identified in the plan, and in 2023 this was an area of focus for our work, where we engaged with major employers of outdoor workers to promote skin cancer prevention.

Engaging with communities to help build understanding and awareness of cancer and cancer prevention is a key part of our work to support healthy living, awareness and early detection. Over the course of 2023 we delivered 41 presentations to community groups such as Men's Sheds; Women's Shed Limerick; AkiDwA, a national network of migrant women living in Ireland; Cultúr Migrant Centre; and Cork Deaf Club.

We once again worked with Maynooth University and Edinburgh Napier University on HPV vaccine awareness for secondary school students, where Transition Year students attended a week long workshop making short films to promote HPV vaccine uptake to young people. HPV vaccination, alongside cervical screening and treatment of cervical disease, is the pathway to eliminating cervical cancer. As part of the Cervical Cancer Elimination Group, we supported the Minister's announcement in November that the target date for cervical cancer elimination in Ireland is 2040. With action and investment, that can be achieved and we will work with partners in the coming years to achieve it.

**1,000**

cases of cancer in Ireland every year are attributable to alcohol



## Achieving against our objectives

OBJECTIVE	RESULTS	PROGRESS
Develop an organisation-wide Prevention and Early Detection Plan for 2023-2025.	This was completed in 2023, and will be implemented in 2024.	Achieved
Advocate for Government to put more supports in place to make it easier for people to quit smoking.	Key successes include the introduction of free NRT in 2023.	Achieved
Advocate for health warnings on alcohol products.	Regulations signed by the Minister in 2023.	Achieved
Continue to push for a ban on flavoured vaping products.	Despite regulatory gains made in 2023, we continue to advocate at all levels for a ban on flavoured vaping products which are particularly targeted at, and appealing to, children.	In progress
Educate people about how to prevent cancer through community-level talks.	As part of our integrated cancer awareness, early detection and prevention programmes, we have delivered 41 presentations in community settings in 2023, alongside our Roadshows and workplace programmes.	Achieved

## Our objectives for 2024

- Work as part of the Cervical Cancer Elimination Partnership to support the development of an action plan to eliminate cervical cancer by 2040.
- Advocate for the full enactment of the Public Health (Tobacco Products and Nicotine Inhaling Products) Bill 2023.
- Continue to raise awareness of and advocate for regulation of flavoured nicotine products and novel tobacco products.
- Enable and support people to make healthy choices to reduce cancer risk through community-level talks.
- Advocate for changes at local level that will make it easier for people to get active – including more walking and cycling facilities, green areas and age friendly exercise spaces.

Engaging with communities to help build understanding and awareness of cancer and cancer prevention is a key part of this work to support healthy living, awareness and early detection.



Irish Cancer Society Cancer Awareness Nurse Sarah Egan, Irish Cancer Society Corporate Partnerships Manager Claire Bowman, and Irish Cancer Society Volunteer at the 'Your Health Matters' Roadshow in Navan





# Sarah

**"I always feel like I am doing a good job when following a talk or a health check, we receive feedback of someone's intention to change an aspect of their health after meeting us."**

Catching cancer early

## Helping to catch cancer early

**I work as a Cancer Awareness Nurse at the Irish Cancer Society. My role aims to reduce people's risk of cancer and improve early detection rates. I travel the country, visiting communities across Ireland with our 'Your Health Matters' Roadshow.**

This nurse-led community outreach initiative provides health checks in shopping centres in areas around the country.

Each 15-minute health check includes blood pressure and body mass index (BMI) checks, a carbon monoxide (CO) reading and lifestyle advice to improve people's awareness of cancer signs, the importance of screening, positive lifestyle changes and to encourage medical care-seeking behaviour.

Outside of the roadshows, I also regularly present cancer awareness talks and information stands to workplace groups, community groups and organisations on various cancer related topics.

I love meeting new people every day. Unfortunately, most people will have been affected by cancer in some way or other in their lifetime.

I am passionate about changing the narrative of a cancer diagnosis being a "death sentence", that it may have been traditionally perceived as. There have been huge advancements made in recent years here in Ireland and worldwide in diagnostics, treatments etc.

I always feel like I am doing a good job when following a talk or a health check, we receive feedback of someone's intention to change an aspect of their health after meeting us. Maybe it's they have quit smoking or taken up regular exercise. Or they may have finally made the appointment for their cervical check that they had been avoiding for months. It's great to see people feel more empowered and confident to take control of their health.

**Sarah Egan**  
Cancer Awareness Nurse

# 49

Days Roadshow operational

↑ Up 6% from 2022



# Catching cancer early

## Our Goal

**We are working for a future where more cancers are caught early.**

## To achieve this

We will lead advocacy campaigns, innovate services, fund research, and work in partnerships that will eliminate the survival gap between Ireland and other European countries.

We will give people the best chance of surviving cancer.

## The impact we had in 2023

Our 'Your Health Matters' Roadshows went from strength to strength in 2023, thanks to support from our volunteers, staff and local communities. These Roadshows take place in shopping centres and other high-traffic community locations all around the country, and bring cancer awareness and early detection to people where they are. At the Roadshow, people can learn more about cancer signs and symptoms and take part in a free nurse-led health check. 1,850 health checks took place in 2023, up 17% from 2022.

We also increased our early detection work in workplaces across Ireland, delivering integrated cancer prevention, awareness and early detection talks and information stands in 68 workplaces across the country. This includes workplaces large and small and across all sectors these include An Post, Intel, CBRE, AIB, Pfizer, County Councils and Government Departments.

Catching cancer early is one of the best ways to increase the chances of living well after a cancer diagnosis, but we are all too aware that not everyone in Ireland has the same opportunities to catch cancer early. Our work in this space particularly emphasises more vulnerable or marginalised populations. In 2023, we continued our partnership with the Capuchin Day Centre and Safety Net Primary Care to support users of the Centre's food aid service, who may be homeless or otherwise marginalised. Through this partnership our nurses delivered 202 health checks to service users. We also worked with community groups, particularly in migrant and new Irish communities, to increase cancer awareness.

We will continue to do more to reach those people who need us most, and reduce these inequalities. In 2023 we funded research to be conducted by Dr Martin McMahon to help identify the barriers and enablers of early diagnosis for older people, and people with

intellectual and physical disabilities. In the coming years we will use the findings of this research to break down barriers and increase earlier detection for all people in Ireland.

Throughout the year we also continued awareness campaigns targeting common cancers, and cancers which are more likely to be caught later, and raising awareness of cancer signs and symptoms. Our work continued to generate an impact, with our prostate campaign in September, for example, resulting in a 139% increase in visits to our prostate cancer awareness webpages, as compared to the same time in 2022.

Cancer screening is a key way in which we can help to catch cancer early and increase survival. The Irish Cancer Society was instrumental in the establishment of screening programmes such as BowelScreen, and we continue to advocate for its take-up and expansion. We have advocated for increasing the scope and coverage of screening programmes, and this year the National Screening Advisory Committee (NSAC) confirmed that the Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) will review an expansion of age ranges to BowelScreen and BreastScreen.

We also updated our call (made in our 2021 submission to NSAC) for the piloting of lung cancer screening and prostate cancer screening. Lung cancer screening has been piloted in many countries, with success. In the UK for example, pilot programmes in areas such as Liverpool and Manchester, have led to the English NHS rolling out a national lung health check which will cover all areas of England by 2029. Ireland shouldn't be left behind and needs to assess a similar path for the Irish population. The Society will support this through our advocacy, and research, and in 2023 the Irish Cancer Society reached agreement with Beaumont Hospital and the Royal College of Surgeons to fund a lung cancer research programme.

# 1,850

health checks took place in 2023  
↑ up 17% from 2022



## Achieving against our objectives

OBJECTIVE	RESULTS	PROGRESS
Increase the reach of the Roadshows, and operate for at least 60 days in 2023.	Roadshows operated for 49 days in 2023, three days more than 2022. This was below target, as the team also delivered community and workplace awareness and early detection activities instead.  Reach grew with over 30% more people engaged with and 17% more health checks conducted (compared with 2022)	Achieved in part
Develop and implement an expanded workplace awareness and early detection awareness programme.	Our workplace awareness and early detection work grew in 2023, with 68 presentations and 10 Roadshow days delivered in workplaces. Work on new initiatives has commenced and will continue in 2024.	In progress
Recruit and train cancer awareness volunteers within communities to support awareness activities and campaigns.	70 volunteers supported Roadshows in 2023. In 2024, we will add to the events and initiatives that volunteers support.	In progress
Continue to deliver integrated cancer awareness public campaigns, and increase the number of people reached through this work.	Delivered across 2023, with growth in reach across a number of key campaigns. For example, our prostate campaign showed a 139% increase on 2022.	Achieved
Evaluate the Capuchin Centre partnership, and use these learnings to continue to expand this service.	We continued to deliver cancer awareness, early detection and support outreach in the Capuchin Centre in 2023, with 202 health checks conducted. We postponed the evaluation, to allow further time for collection of data on ongoing impact.	Postponed
Identify opportunities for further partnerships to reach and support at risk-groups.	Through our integrated cancer prevention, awareness and early detection work, we have engaged with groups such as AkiDWA, a national network of migrant women living in Ireland, and Cultúr Migrant Centre. We will continue to seek out new partnerships and opportunities in 2024.	Achieved
Fund world-class cancer research programmes and pilots specifically focused on improving the early detection rates of cancer.	We agreed funding for a multi-annual lung cancer research programme with Beaumont RCSI (BRCSI), to commence in 2024.  We invested in research to identify barriers to early detection for underserved communities, to be conducted by Dr Martin McMahon.	Achieved

## Our objectives for 2024

- Increase the reach of the Roadshows, and deliver at least 50 days in 2024.
- Continue the Capuchin Centre partnership, and use learnings to continue to expand this service.
- Continue to deliver integrated cancer awareness public campaigns, and increase the people reached through this work.
- Commence work across the Irish Cancer Society/ BRCSI lung cancer research programme to improve early detection of lung cancer.
- Develop additional workplace cancer awareness resources and increase reach.

Welcome  
to the Lung  
Health  
Roadshow



Mary Twohill,  
Irish Cancer  
Society Cancer  
Awareness Nurse





# Daniel

**"I was awarded a PhD scholarship by the Irish Cancer Society for a translational research project to help improve treatment of a rare and incurable form of cancer called follicular lymphoma, which affects the body's lymphatic or 'germ-fighting' system."**

## Treating cancer

# World-class cancer treatment for everyone

**It was a series of difficult conversations in a hospital consultation room that first prompted me to become involved in cancer research.**

After practising in haematology for a number of years, seeing patients in clinics has given me the opportunity to better understand the outcomes that matter most to them.

I was awarded a PhD scholarship by the Irish Cancer Society for a translational research project to help improve treatment of a rare and incurable form of cancer called follicular lymphoma, which affects the body's lymphatic or 'germ-fighting' system.

It's great when we have good news to give patients in terms of their follicular lymphoma, but very often I see the same patients coming back with side effects after multiple lines of treatment for recurrent disease.

There are a few patients who really stick out in my head, and their experiences pushed me into the research path to try to improve the treatment of follicular lymphoma without resorting to conventional

chemotherapy treatments that are often quite toxic in terms of their side effects.

I am working to develop treatments that target mutations in the EZH2 gene that contribute to a quarter of all follicular lymphoma cases.

In doing so, I hope to develop targeted treatments that can deliver more effective outcomes for patients that don't come with harmful side effects, while also ensuring that the disease does not have an opportunity to return in later years.

The project also involves a big Public and Patient (PPI) component, and this is one of the reasons I thought the Irish Cancer Society award was so interesting as I hadn't come across this aspect of research before. It's becoming a major component in research globally and I think it's a brilliant idea.

**Dr Daniel Angelov**  
Cancer researcher

# 188

Cancer researchers funded  
↑ Up 35% from 2022



# Treating cancer

## Our Goal

**We are working for a future with world-class cancer treatment for everyone.**

## To achieve this

We will lobby Government so that all cancer patients are given timely access to treatments that will work best for them.

We will reduce the fear of cancer through our support services and invest in research that has the potential to transform lives.

## The impact we had in 2023

Across 2023, we saw significant growth in demand for our core services which support people through cancer, especially during treatment.

Our Support Line and Daffodil Centre nurses are a vital support to patients, family members and friends affected by cancer across the country. Our nurses are an expert source of cancer information and advice, as well as a listening ear and safe space to air the fears, concerns and worries faced. As one user of our services put it "I had a really good chat and a little cry": which sometimes is exactly what is needed. Thousands of people in 2023 benefited from similarly "good chats" and support. Last year, 28,000 support conversations took place by phone, online or in person with a Support Line or Daffodil Centre nurse. This is almost a third more conversations than took place in 2022.

Our Transport Service saw comparable growth in 2023. This nationwide service offers patients free door-to-door transport to their chemotherapy and related appointments, reducing the practical and financial burden of treatment. 22,100 drives were carried out in 2023, up 31% on the previous year. This is on the back of a similar increase in 2022, as compared to 2021. The vast majority of this transport is provided by Volunteer Drivers, supported by taxis where necessary.

**"I really would like to thank the Irish Cancer Society for all their efforts. I have met many volunteers and I always had a nice talk with them even in the toughest of situations."**

Anonymous

We are a voice for patients at every stage, and in 2023 we were proud to work with the 221+ Group to achieve improvements in open disclosure for patients through the Patient Safety Act 2023. This legislation ensures the mandatory open disclosure of adverse incidents during the care of patients. It was introduced in the wake of the CervicalCheck controversy and is a major step forward in terms of transparency for patients. In 2023, we were

disappointed in the lack of Government funding for cancer care, with no specific funding for the National Cancer Strategy included in the budget. One of the goals of the National Cancer Strategy is the development of comprehensive cancer centres in Ireland where world-class cancer treatment and care, education, and research, work together to improve patient outcomes. The Irish Cancer Society is committed to the National Cancer Strategy, and this is why in 2023, we launched a partnership with Trinity College Dublin and St James's Hospital to innovate across research, treatment and care for patients in the Trinity St James's Cancer Institute (TSJCI). Over five years the Society will invest €4.5 million in several exemplar programmes aimed at delivering a new model of cancer care for patients in Ireland, and accelerating the translation of cancer research into new treatments and better support for patients.

**"The drug I was put on worked wonders, my cancer saw a 50% reduction after the first dose. It's a gruelling treatment but I am happy to say I am currently living well with my cancer."**

Alicia Lynch, cancer trial participant.

Additionally, the Society invested in new cancer research across the country in 2023. The Society made 16 awards, worth €1.7 million, to researchers working toward our Treating Cancer goal. This includes our support for Cancer Trials Ireland (CTI). The Irish Cancer Society is the largest funder of CTI, contributing €1 million a year in funding as part of a multi-annual partnership to increase access to and take-up of cancer trials in Ireland. 2023 has seen an increase in the number of patients in Ireland participating in cancer trials, thanks in part to this support.

Partnership and a national approach to cancer research are essential to maximise the benefits. We are proud to support the All-Island Cancer Research Institute (AICRI). In 2023, we directly funded a programme role for AICRI as well as engaging and supporting its work.

# 28,000

support conversations took place by phone, online and in person with a Support Line or Daffodil Centre cancer nurse



## Achieving against our objectives

OBJECTIVE	RESULTS	PROGRESS
Roll-out three new pre-treatment workshops for patients to provide information, advice and support to every patient undergoing treatment for cancer.	Pre-treatment workshops developed for radiotherapy, oral anti-cancer medications, and targeted therapy and immunotherapy, in addition to our existing chemotherapy workshops with the first participants to join in 2024.	In progress
Increase by 20% the number of patients we support through our Transport Service.	2,200 patients were supported with free drives to treatment through the Transport Services, an increase of 30% on 2022.	Achieved
Complete and evaluate the Cork pilot for patients travelling to radiotherapy appointments through our Transport Service.	Continued to provide transport to radiotherapy appointments for Cork patients. The pilot has been extended to allow for further data to be gathered.	In progress
Increase the area covered by our Transport Service for children and teenagers travelling to CHI Crumlin.	The service currently covers areas encompassing almost 50% of patients who are attending CHI Crumlin. Further expansion was postponed to 2024.	Postponed
Increase the number of support conversations conducted by our nurses on the Support Line and in Daffodil Centres by 10%.	Across both services, 28,000 support conversations took place in 2023. This was an increase of 23% for the Support Line and 36% for our Daffodil Centres.	Achieved
Increase the number of patients on cancer trials funded by the Society through our investment in Cancer Trials Ireland.	Almost 1,800 new patients joined clinical trials in 2023, up 21% on 2022.	Achieved
Invest over €1 million in research funding to support our Treating Cancer goal.	€1.7 million in new research funding was invested by the Society against this goal in 2023.	Achieved
Provide additional advice, information and support to families affected by childhood cancer.	We expanded our supports and services and our CAYA cancer coordinator nurse is now available five days a week to support families.	Achieved
Advocate for continued increases in funding for cancer services.	Through our pre-budget submission and continued advocacy for National Cancer Strategy funding, as well as topical issues, we have actively campaigned for increased funding but have been disappointed by Government's response to date.	In progress
Invest in strategic partnerships to advance world-class cancer treatment for everyone.	Our partnership with TSJCI is an example of a flagship programme which can pave the way for world-class treatment for everyone.	Achieved

Averil Power, CEO, Irish Cancer Society being interviewed by Hannah Murphy, Reporter, Virgin Media News



## Our objectives for 2024

- Increase the number of support conversations conducted by our nurses on the Support Line and in Daffodil Centres by 10%.
- Increase by 15% the number of patients we support through our Transport Service.
- Increase the areas covered by our Transport Service for children and teenagers travelling to CHI Crumlin.
- Ensure the delivery of the goals and objectives of our TSJCI Partnership.
- Complete research to identify the barriers to cancer trial participation in Ireland and identify new actions to increase cancer trial take up.
- Maintain our partnership with Cancer Trials Ireland and support measures to increase the number of patients on cancer trials.
- Continue to advocate for increases in funding for the National Cancer Strategy and cancer services.
- Invest €2.9m in research funding to support our Treating Cancer goal.
- Evaluate our pilot support packs programme, and expand to launch and distribute CAYA specific support packs.
- Secure commitments in general election manifestos to increase Government funding for the National Cancer Strategy.





# Rachel

**“For support during my diagnosis and treatment, I used a number of Irish Cancer Society services including the counselling service and the Daffodil Centre.”**

## Living well

### Living well with and beyond cancer

**I was diagnosed with breast cancer in November of 2018. My GP discovered a lump in my left armpit, and I was referred to my local breast clinic. On the day of my appointment at the clinic I was told that I had cancer, which had spread to my lymph nodes.**

I remember that day well as it was the day Storm Diane hit the country. I will never forget walking back to my car alone, with the wind and the rain hitting me, and feeling so numb and in shock from what I had just been told.

My treatment plan included surgery, radiation, antibody injections and Tamoxifen. I was also prescribed a course of chemotherapy, but I had terrible side effects, which resulted in me being hospitalised twice during treatment.

For support during my diagnosis and treatment, I used a number of Irish Cancer Society services including the counselling service and the Daffodil Centre.

When I was first diagnosed, it triggered an episode of depression and anxiety. I was very fortunate

however, as I was pointed in the direction of the Irish Cancer Society's free counselling service, which was so helpful.

After that, I was also referred to the Daffodil Centre in my local hospital. My husband and I went in there and spoke with the lovely nurse who offered us advice and support on the many aspects of a cancer diagnosis, from the financial impact, to how to tell your children about your diagnosis.

My cancer diagnosis was very hard on our family, and our two sons basically had to cope without their mother for a year and a half. Knowing that supports are available to you when needed, is extremely reassuring.

**Rachel Akkoç**  
Survivor and advocate

# 14,800

sessions of  
counselling  
delivered



# Living well

## Our Goal

**We are working for a future where everyone affected by cancer lives well after treatment.**

## To achieve this

We will make sure the emotional, physical, financial and practical needs of those who have undergone cancer treatment are met.

We will provide services that will directly support people, so they are better able to cope with the impact of cancer.

We will undertake research that will help us improve cancer patients' quality of life.

## The impact we had in 2023

Throughout 2023 the Society worked across all areas to reduce the emotional, physical, financial and practical burden of cancer.

The Irish Cancer Society has been a long-time advocate of the need for Government to do more to reduce the cost of cancer and relieve the financial burden of a diagnosis. With the cost of living continuing to be a major concern in 2023, this work was even more to the fore. 2023 finally saw the abolition of in-patient charges, saving patients up to €800 per year. The Irish Cancer Society has long campaigned for the abolition of these charges, and we were recognised by Minister Donnelly with advocating for this change when he announced its implementation.

Another key area of advocacy for us has been the cost of car-parking in hospitals, which we have been vocal on especially through our Advocacy Champion local network. We renewed our call to 'Park the Charges' across all hospitals, and launched a map of hospital car parking prices to support this campaign.

Our 'Leave our Leave' campaign, launched in 2022, highlighted the anomaly in Irish law where women who were undergoing cancer treatment were unable to defer their maternity leave and, in effect, lost their entitlement to this leave. This legislative gap affects up to 60 women per year. After extensive campaigning by women who had been affected, our grassroots advocates and the whole Irish Cancer Society community, the Minister announced in October that he would legislate to address this issue.

We continued to raise the importance of the 'Right to be Forgotten', the need for legislation to ensure that a past cancer diagnosis doesn't limit a person's future ability to secure a mortgage, insurance or other financial products. 2023 saw impact from that advocacy, with the publication by Insurance Ireland of a voluntary Code of Practice for cancer survivors seeking mortgage protection insurance and other insurance products. This is a positive step forward for cancer survivors. We will continue to advocate for legislation and regulation on this issue, including a statutory code of practice, to ensure fair and equal access to financial products for cancer survivors.

Our direct survivorship services continued in 2023, with 14,800 sessions of counselling delivered through our remote counselling service and our funding of in-person counselling in community cancer support centres around the country. This is down slightly (8%) on sessions delivered in 2022.

**"I had been talking to my mam and partner about it, and they were getting upset so it's nice to have someone else to talk to instead."**

**Maria, who availed of counselling through the Irish Cancer Society after being diagnosed with a rare ocular melanoma.**

In 2023, we also piloted a new holistic needs assessment, and also trialed new survivorship services. The holistic needs assessment is a way to work with a patient or survivor to identify the full range of supports that they need to live well with and beyond cancer. One participant in the pilot described it as a "basket of support woven around me". The pilot was a success, and the HNA will be rolled out across the Society as a new model of support.

We also continued to grow our supports for children, teenagers and young adults affected by cancer. We piloted coaching services for young adults, providing them with support to plan for their future. We also increased the range of supports for children and teenagers with a free Creative Arts Therapy programme. Traditional "talk therapy" isn't always suitable for children and teenagers, but through creative therapies such as music or art, children can express their emotions and work through their experience of cancer.

We also relaunched our Cancer In the Classroom resources, a guide for school staff, youth workers and childcare professionals to provide support where a member of the school community is affected by cancer. Our family and young adult camps also continued in 2023. Working with Barretstown, we provided seven camps supporting 430 parents, siblings, children and young people affected by cancer.

**"It was great for them to spend time together and leave the worry behind for a fun family weekend [...] they can't stop talking about all the activities they got to do."**

**Abigail, Mum to Cadoc who is undergoing cancer treatment, speaking about the Irish Cancer Society family camp at Barretstown which Cadoc, his two siblings and his Dad attended.**

We also continued to fund vital survivorship research to create new programmes, solutions and ideas to ensure that people can live well with and beyond a cancer diagnosis. We invested almost €1 million in new research under our Living Well theme in 2023. This includes research projects such as that of Jane Gaffey, who is researching the supportive care needs of people who have both cancer and dementia, and their care-givers; and of Catherine O'Brien and Prof Maeve Lowery about the fear of cancer recurrence in cancer survivorship. Our flagship survivorship research programmes - the Women's Health Initiative and the Liam Mc Trial continued to go from strength to strength. The Liam Mc Trial, for example, worked with two groups of men on a 12 week programme of wrap-around supports to meet the emotional, practical and physical needs of men affected by cancer. The impact on participants has already been transformative. As Stephanie Corkery, a physiotherapist working on the trial says "If you could take a video of them [the participants] on the first day versus the final day, the difference is unbelievable". The project will continue in 2024.

## Achieving against our objectives

OBJECTIVE	RESULTS	PROGRESS
Open an Irish Cancer Society community service to provide survivorship supports to people in areas that are currently underserved.	In 2024 we will explore and pilot a new model for community service delivery in an underserved area.	Postponed
Complete a pilot of a holistic need assessment, to provide a means for people to access a full range of supports and services that they need.	Pilot programme and evaluation successfully completed, with positive feedback and results. Phased roll-out will take place in 2024.	Achieved
Increase the number of people benefiting from the Society's survivorship supports and patient education programmes.	Increases seen in patients participating in pilot survivorship services and peer support, but a decrease in take up of counselling and patient education.	Not achieved
Increase awareness of our Practical and Financial services and increase the number of people supported.	Over 500 people availed of the pilot Practical and Financial services, an increase on 2022. Practical and Financial services form part of a pilot programme of new supports. In 2024, we will focus on a sustainable, phased roll-out of these services.	Achieved in part
Pilot new survivorship supports for children, adolescents and young adults.	Coaching services for adolescents and young adults were piloted in 2023.	Achieved
Increase the range of supports provided for CAYA through new funded posts and staffing.	New Creative Arts Therapy services for children, adolescents and young adults were launched in 2023.	Achieved
Run six camps for families and young people in partnership with Barretstown.	Six camps took place in 2023.	Achieved
Continue to advocate for changes to reduce the practical and financial burden of cancer, building on past work.	Extensive advocacy work in 2023 across car-parking, The Right to be Forgotten, Leave our Leave, and key successes in in-patient charges.	Achieved

## Our objectives for 2024

- Commence the society-wide roll-out of the Holistic Needs Assessment as a means to provide personal, rounded support to cancer survivors.
- Increase the number of peer support matches by 25%.
- Continue to increase the emotional and holistic supports provided to children and teenagers affected by cancer.
- Maintain pressure on our Leave our Leave campaign to ensure that the Ministerial commitment to implement change is delivered.
- Secure commitments in the election manifestos to reduce the cost of cancer.
- Continue to invest in survivorship research and other research to support our Living well goal.



Staff member Rebecca Ivory chatting with an attendee at the Society's Living Well With and Beyond Cancer conference in Cork





# Margaret

**"My work involves providing nursing care, support, and compassion to people who need end-of-life care in their own home."**

End-of-life care

## Support and care at end-of-life

**When my father was dying and asked not to return to hospital, we were lucky enough to be able to look after him at home. This experience highlighted to me the importance of being able to adhere to his wishes.**

I wondered how I could contribute to enabling other people to die at home at the end of their lives, so I contacted the Irish Cancer Society, and I became a night nurse.

My work involves providing nursing care, support, and compassion to people who need end-of-life care in their own home. Assessing and managing symptoms is of paramount importance to ensure the person is comfortable. I work from 11pm until 7am. This enables family members to get some rest as they know their loved one is not alone.

Many times, I can see the relief in a person's face when I arrive for my shift. They are exhausted and

the burden of care is now shared. It also means that I can address any symptoms using medication and comfort measures.

I feel fulfilled when a person who may have been distressed by symptoms responds well to medication. It's lovely to see them comfortable and peaceful and to see the relief on the faces of family members. I love empowering people by listening to their fears or concerns and answering any questions they may have. Sometimes, listening is one of the most important things I do as it allows people to be heard.

**Margaret Kingston**  
night nurse

# 200

night nurses worked providing nights of care in 2023

# End-of-life care

## Our Goal

**We are working for a future where there is holistic support for people dying from cancer.**

## To achieve this

We will ensure people dying from cancer have access to the full range of supports needed by them and their families.

We will drive changes from Government that will mean more people can die at home.

We will prioritise research that guides the development of our own supports and informs our advocacy to improve public services for people dying from cancer.

## The impact we had in 2023

Throughout 2023, we continued to provide free in-home nursing care to patients at end-of-life. This service allows patients to die at home, surrounded by their families and loved ones.

In 2023, we provided 6,850 nights of care to cancer patients, an increase of 4% on the previous year. At the end of 2022, we had set a goal of increasing the average number of nights per patient, as we were concerned that patients and families who could benefit from our service are not able to access it early enough. We achieved this goal in 2023, with an increase in the average nights of care provided to each patient. In 2024, we hope to continue to grow the overall number of nights, nights per patient, and number of patients supported.

We continued to face challenges in securing nurses to deliver the service, as nationally we are facing a nursing shortage across all areas of healthcare. Over the course of the year, 200 nurses provided nights of care but despite their best efforts we were unable to provide a night nurse for 12% of nights where one was requested (compared to 13% of requests in 2022).

In 2023, the Society funded Dr Suzanne Denieffe and her team at South East Technological University to research energy hardship for people with palliative care needs. This research highlighted heartbreaking situations where patients at end-of-life were dying in the cold, unable to heat their homes. The research concluded in December, and we have already begun to highlight its findings to politicians and policy makers, demanding action to ensure that everyone can live well during their final days.

**“We wanted to get him home and he wanted to spend his final days at home and that wouldn’t have been possible without the Irish Cancer Society night nurses. The respite offered by the night nurses is just indescribable. They’re there, of course, for practical medical support, but the mental and emotional reassurance of having them there in case he took a turn or something happened – they’re just amazing and we’re so grateful to them.”**

**Sharon, speaking about her Dad, who availed of the Society’s night nursing service.**

We also provided supports for children who have been bereaved by cancer. We have developed special memory boxes which are designed as a keepsake for parents to create for their children, when the parent is dying from cancer. We also held our first bereavement camp for children and families who have lost a parent to cancer. Through peer support, trained volunteers, therapists and specialists, families are given space and support for their bereavement and grief.

We remember all who lost their lives to cancer in 2023. For them and for all people affected by cancer, we will continue to put all our efforts toward a future where no-one’s life is cut short by cancer. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha.

# 6,850

In 2023 we provided 6,850 nights of care to cancer patients, an increase of 4% on the previous year



## Achieving against our objectives

OBJECTIVE	RESULTS	PROGRESS
Conduct research to understand the barriers to accessing our night nursing service, to seek to improve our understanding of how we can support more people to die at home.	We postponed this research as we will instead conduct a full evaluation of the night nursing service in 2024.	Postponed
Recruit and retain our dedicated night nursing staff, aiming for an increase in the number of night nurses working per year and an increase in the average number of nights worked by each night nurse.	We had 18 night nurses retire in 2023, and we successfully recruited 30 new nurses. The average number of nights worked by a night nurse increased from 45 to 49.	Achieved
Reduce the proportion of nights which we are unable to provide a night nurse to no more than 10%.	We were sadly unable to provide a night nurse for 12% of nights where one was requested.	Not achieved
Increase to 6,850 the number of nights of night nursing care delivered to cancer patients.	This was achieved, with 6,850 nights of care provided to cancer patients in 2023.	Achieved
Review the night nursing policies and procedures to ensure and maintain the high quality and governance of the service.	The policy review has commenced, with the refresh of policies continuing into 2024.	Achieved in part

**We had 18 night nurses retire in 2023, and we successfully recruited 30 new nurses. The average number of nights worked by a night nurse increased from 45 to 49.**



Irish Cancer Society CEO Averil Power speaking at the organisation's annual night nursing Conference in Dublin in October

### Our objectives for 2024

- Conduct an evaluation of our night nursing service and identify opportunities for future development.
- Reduce the proportion of nights which we are unable to provide a night nurse to no more than 10%.
- Recruit and retain our dedicated night nursing staff, aiming for an increase in the number of night nurses working per year and an increase in the average number of nights worked by each night nurse.
- Increase to 7,250 the number of nights of night nursing care delivered to cancer patients.
- Complete a refresh of our policies and procedures for the night nursing service.
- Increase political awareness of energy hardship struggles experienced by cancer patients at end of life.





# Colm

**“Being a part of this organisation and a part of being there for patients when they need it most, it’s incredibly rewarding, and I really love doing it.”**

Structured for impact

## Volunteering to make an impact

**In August 2020, following her third cancer diagnosis, my wife Caroline died of cancer, aged just 41. Since August 2022, I have been driving for the Irish Cancer Society’s Transport Service, bringing cancer patients to and from their treatment appointments.**

It’s the best thing I’ve ever done. I get to give back and be there for people going through what my own Caroline did.

When I look back, the support Caroline and I got from the Irish Cancer Society was brilliant. Especially the Daffodil Centre in Waterford at the very beginning of her first diagnosis, they just explained things and put us at ease, and they were so easy to talk to.

I had heard about the Irish Cancer Society Transport Service and after we lost Caroline, it was something I wanted to do to give back. I can tell you; it has been the best form

of therapy I could ever have asked for. The chat, the fun, and the relationship you build with people is just so unique.

I’ve been through what they’re going through now. If they want to chat, I’m there for a chat. If they just want to relax and listen to music, I’m a great DJ as well!

Being a part of this organisation and a part of being there for patients when they need it most, it’s incredibly rewarding, and I really love doing it.

**Colm Murphy  
Volunteer**

# 2,220

Total patients driven to appointments

↑ Up 28% from 2022

# Structured for impact

**Our Strategy** requires us to be structured well to effect change and support people affected by cancer. Along with sustainable fundraising, this is the enabler which will help us to achieve our strategy.

**Our Goal** is to be a high performing organisation with the right people, culture, processes and technology in place, and to achieve more through effective partnerships.

## The impact we've had in 2023

We are able to effectively advocate for change for cancer patients because we have the networks, relationships and grassroots structures to do so. Deepening these structures is a part of our strategy, and in 2023 we increased the number of members of our Advocacy Champions Network from 44 to 78. We also continued to support the Oireachtas Cross Party Group on Cancer, a dedicated political group on cancer, bringing together 13 TDs and Senators from across the political spectrum.

We have continued to grow our online presence through social media expansion and through cancer.ie. We have ended 2023 with 280,000 social media followers across Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn (up 5% from 2022), and continue to engage the public with daily original and creative content. 1.25 million people (unique visitors) also came to cancer.ie in 2023, an increase of 21% on 2022.

The Irish Cancer Society brand is essential to increase awareness of the Society, and ensure more people can avail of our supports and services, and support our fundraising. In 2023 we refreshed our brand identity and started to roll it out across our physical and digital assets. We are implementing the brand roll-out in an

extended phased way, working through materials and consumables with the "old brand" rather than replacing materials wholesale. This reduces waste, is more sustainable, and more cost-effective.

The Society also continues to improve our processes and technology to be more efficient and effective. For example, the introduction of new automated night nurse timesheet imports reduced manual effort by over 85%. Email automation for our Patient Transport service also decreased the need for phone calls on over 3,000 bookings.

Maintaining the highest standards of governance and integrity is essential for our work. We were proud to maintain our reputation as one of the most trusted charities in Ireland in 2023, and work hard everyday to sustain this trust. In 2023 we improved our policies and training on GDPR and cyber security, as well as refreshing and updating our approaches to risk management and internal audit.

Staff and volunteers of the Irish Cancer Society are the heart of the organisation, and in line with our values, we maintained our commitment to ensuring that all staff are paid the National Living Wage, not just the minimum wage. We also enhanced our wellbeing supports for staff, including introducing Mental Health

First Responders. We continued to invest in our people through training and development, including the introduction of a pilot manager leadership training programme.

The Society welcomed over 500 new volunteers to its ranks in 2023 (+3% on 2022), and continued to improve

our onboarding, recruitment and training. We also held three Volunteer Celebration events in 2023, in Athlone, Cork and Galway, with 220 volunteers in attendance. The events were an opportunity for volunteers to connect with one another, learn more about the Society, and for us as a community to celebrate their commitment and contribution.

## Achieving our objectives

OBJECTIVE	RESULTS	PROGRESS
Continue implementation of the people strategy, to attract, retain and engage staff and volunteers.	Continue to implement the people strategy in 2023.	Achieved
Increase our focus on equality, diversity and inclusion and implement inclusion training and activities.	Achieved (see Diversity and Inclusion section below), and will continue in 2024.	Achieved
Recruit 500 new volunteers to the Society.	Achieved with just over 500 new volunteers recruited.	Achieved
Celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Society and use this as an opportunity to raise awareness of our work.	Commemorative stamp launched by An Post commemorating cancer research and care. Further activities planned for 2024 as we refresh our brand.	Achieved
Continue to grow our online and social media engagement.	Increase in social media followers and visitors to our website.	Achieved
Implement a new fundraising platform to improve the donor experience.	New platform was successfully trialled for Relay for Life in 2023, and will be implemented across the Society in 2024.	In progress
Update and continually improve our approach to GDPR, risk management and internal audit.	New policies and training completed for GDPR, refresh of risk management, and internal audit plan developed.	Achieved

## Our objectives for 2024

- Enhance the support and supervision available for volunteers, especially for their wellbeing.
- Update our performance management systems for staff.
- Recruit 500 new volunteers to the Society.
- Continue to grow our online and social media engagement.
- Continue the roll-out of our new branding across the Society's work.
- Enhance our assurance testing and governance with a new external provider and agreed internal audit plan.
- Continue to embed our newly developed Risk Management Framework.



# How we work

## Our volunteers and staff

The Irish Cancer Society community is made up of dedicated and hard-working staff, volunteers and supporters across every county in Ireland.

Our volunteers engage across all of the Society's work. They help deliver services such as the Survivor Support programme, providing emotional and practical support to anyone going through cancer; the Transport Service, bringing patients to and from chemotherapy appointments; and our Daffodil Centres, providing information and support.

Volunteers also work across fundraising initiatives like Daffodil Day and Relay for Life; assist in our retail shops and office; and support our advocacy and communications work, championing change and raising awareness. The Society's board and committee members all serve in a voluntary capacity providing governance, oversight and expertise.

Our community of patient representatives also support researchers across the country, ensuring that the patient experience is reflected in the research we fund.

**"Volunteering has been an integral part of my weekly routine, I feel my work has value and is really appreciated, I get great satisfaction from it. I work with a wonderful team [...] I would recommend anyone who has free time and is looking for something meaningful in their lives to sign-up and volunteer with us here at the Irish Cancer Society."**

Mary Catherine Falvey, Volunteer with the Irish Cancer Society

## It's a privilege to work as an Irish Cancer Society Nurse and to support people affected by cancer across Ireland

Caroline O'Sullivan, Irish Cancer Society Nurse.

Given the contribution, commitment and dedication of our staff, it is important that we, as an organisation, are a good employer recognising, supporting and celebrating their work. The Society was proud to retain its place in the Sunday Independent/ Statista Best Employers List for the third year in a row.

Every day our staff and volunteers work with pride and commitment, embracing new ways of working, adapting to change and always retaining focus on doing the best that they can for people affected by cancer. We are always delighted when our staff and volunteers are recognised for their commitment. Staff members like Geraldine De Burca, a night nurse since 2004, who won the "Everyday Healthcare Hero" award at the Irish Healthcare Awards in December. The night nursing service would not be the service it is without people like Geraldine.

To our community of staff, volunteers and supporters, thank you for all that you have done in 2023, and every year, to support people affected by cancer in Ireland.

## Diversity and inclusion

Cancer affects everyone. And everyone affected by cancer deserves care, support and treatment that meets their unique needs, and gives them the best opportunity to live well with and beyond cancer.

We champion diversity and inclusion in all that we do, and continually look for ways to provide information and supports that meet the needs of all people in Ireland. We also seek to reflect inclusion across our community of staff, volunteers and supporters. Being an inclusive place to work and volunteer, and having diversity of backgrounds, communities and thought, strengthens the Society and benefits the people we serve.

A particular focus of our strategy is to reduce inequality of outcome and close the survival gap. Throughout our work we aim to reach and serve people experiencing social and economic disadvantage. Our focus on reducing the cost of cancer, for example, particularly supports lower income families. We also bring our 'Your Health Matters' Roadshows to areas with higher

rates of cancer and lower access to health services, to help reduce inequalities in cancer detection, as well as partnering with the Capuchin Centre to reach the most vulnerable in society.

Accessibility of our information and services to people of all backgrounds and abilities is important to us. We use plain language across all of our publications and communications, to support accessibility. We also offer services, such as patient education, in multiple forms – in person, online, by phone, and through captioned video cards – to provide accessible options for people. We partner with National Adult Literacy Association (NALA) to support people of all backgrounds to be able to understand and access health information, and have developed a suite of health literacy resources.

The Society also operates an interpretation service, so that callers to the Support Line or visitors to the Daffodil Centre can have access to real-time telephone interpretation so they can speak in their first language. Sign language interpretation is also available for callers to the Support Line.

In 2023, we reflected our value of inclusion across all our work, as well as launching new initiatives:

- Counselling is now available in sign language, increasing access and inclusion for members of the Deaf community.
- We expanded our early detection and awareness work in communities, working with groups such as Men's Sheds; Women's Shed Limerick; AkiDwA, a national network of migrant women living in Ireland; Cultúr Migrant Centre; and Cork Deaf Club.
- We introduced a new Menopause policy and guidelines, and held an information session for staff on World Menopause Day, and have introduced free period products for staff and volunteers in our office and shops.
- A range of diversity and inclusion training, talks and events were held for staff in 2023, including presentations from Family Carers Ireland, ALONE and TENI, and training on intercultural awareness and Traveller and Roma inclusion.



- We held a series of events for LGBT+ Pride Week, including attending Dublin Pride, to celebrate the LGBT+ community and increase staff and volunteer understanding of the experiences of LGBT+ people.
- We worked with the Irish Association of Cancer Research in 2023 to fund a session at the Annual Conference focused on increasing diversity and inclusion in cancer research and practice.

In 2024, we will complete our funded research into the particular needs of marginalised communities, and identify new ways to reach people and provide support. We will also continue our diversity, equality and inclusion training for staff and volunteers, as well as continually looking for opportunities across all our work to ensure that our work and the Society is a community for all.

Whoever you are, wherever you come from, we are here for you.

### Sustainability

The health of our planet and human health are deeply interlinked, but often overlooked. We are proud to be a member of the Climate and Health Alliance, a group of public health organisations, charities and advocacy groups from across the island of Ireland. Together we are working to raise awareness of the links between health and climate change, and campaign for action to address the climate crisis.

As an organisation, we are committed to working in the most environmentally sustainable way possible, for the good of our planet and its people. We have taken steps in our everyday actions, reducing paper consumption and printing; and ensuring the re-use or recycling of our waste wherever possible. We adopt a hybrid working model in our Dublin offices, which has reduced waste, water and paper consumption and energy use in 2023 as compared to pre-pandemic.

Our electricity supply is 100% renewable, and we have invested in energy efficient fixtures and equipment. Our offices are free from single-use plastic, and we keep these materials to a minimum at our fundraising and other events. We promote active travel for our staff, and the public generally, as well as use of public transport for business travel where possible.

Each year we sell thousands of daffodil silk pins on Daffodil Day. Our new pin design is made from 100% recycled materials. To avoid waste, we will continue to sell the old design pins alongside the new, but expect to have fully recycled materials in the coming years. We have also considered sustainability across our other branded stock with a focus on reuseable and sustainable products such as reuseable coffee mugs, water bottles and tote bags.

Core to our sustainability are the 21 charity shops which we operate across the country. These shops contribute to the circular economy by diverting clothes and household goods from landfill.

### Our partnerships

Collaboration is a core value of the Society. Working together with partners across the cancer community we can better achieve our vision and mission. We work with other health charities and public health organisations to promote and support policies which enable people to live a healthy life. We are members of the Alcohol Alliance and part of the Tobacco Free Ireland partner group, working to reduce the health risks from smoking and excessive alcohol consumption.

We work with other charities and cancer organisations, to avoid duplication of effort and to expand what we can offer to people in Ireland. We work with CRUK and CCLG, two UK based cancer charities, to customise their cancer information and publications so that Irish cancer patients can benefit from their work. We collaborated with Barretstown to provide camps for families and young people affected by cancer. We partner with other cancer charities, where the strength of our combined voices can effect greater change for those who need us. We work with children's cancer charities, who form our CAYA Advisory Group to share knowledge of activities and services to support children, teenagers and young adults affected by cancer. We support the work of 221+, the group supporting individuals directly affected by failures in the CervicalCheck Screening programme, and sit on the 221+ Steering Group.

We also partner and collaborate with other organisations to support good governance, management and advancement of the sector. We are members of Volunteer Ireland and of the Charities Institute of Ireland. We were proud to support the We Act campaign in 2023, which is a collaborative campaign to celebrate the impact of Ireland's charities and community groups. Our Support Line is also a member of the Helplines Partnership.

Our services and supports are integrated where possible with healthcare providers and other support services. Working in this way makes it easier for people affected by cancer to easily access the range of supports and services they need. Our Daffodil Centres are located in 13 partner hospitals, and we provide our Transport Service to people attending 31 hospitals across the country. We also partner with community cancer support centres, providing funding so that in-person counselling support for people affected by cancer can be delivered in the community. Our night nursing service works closely with HSE community palliative care teams, to ensure that the end-of-life care which we provide is connected with additional palliative care supports provided by the HSE.



Ruth Aherne, Jess Redden and Rose Aherne pictured at the Daffodil Day 2023 launch

**Collaboration is a core value of the Society. Working together with partners across the cancer community we can better achieve our vision and mission.**





Taoiseach Leo Varadkar  
with Averil Power, CEO, Irish  
Cancer Society and Patrick  
Breen and Nora Forde

We work with healthcare professionals and the wider health system to ensure our information, supports and services meet the needs of people affected by cancer.

We work with the National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) on patient education, promoting research, supporting cancer care, and on cancer prevention initiatives. We also work with the National Screening Service to support efforts to increase screening take-up. We are members of networks such as the Irish Psycho-Social Oncology Network (IPSON), the Irish Cancer Prevention Network, and groups for specific cancer types of issues.

Our research funding supports researchers in hospitals, research organisations and universities across Ireland, and we collaborate and work together to disseminate that research and support patient impact. We also work in partnerships by funding and supporting multidisciplinary research groups and networks.

These groups share research knowledge, experience and funding, and can result in breakthroughs which would not be possible alone. In 2022 we continued to fund support groups such as Precision Oncology Ireland, the Women's Health Initiative, and the Irish Association of Cancer Research. We are also members of Health Research Charities Ireland. We have strategic partnerships in place with Cancer Trials Ireland and with Trinity St James's Cancer Institute.

The Society also works with employers, companies and worker organisations around the country, to raise awareness of cancer and support cancer prevention. This year, for example, we worked with many major employers of outdoor workers to promote skin cancer awareness and prevention. We are also deeply appreciative of our corporate partners, large and small, who support the Society through fundraising, participation in our campaigns, and volunteering their skills and services.

Our most important partners however are the cancer patients and their families who inform, define and influence all our work. Cancer patients and survivors serve as members of our PPI panels improving the research we deliver; they are our volunteers and staff members; they share their stories to raise awareness and support campaigns for change; they provide feedback on our services, and help to identify new needs. All that we do is with, and for, people affected by cancer in Ireland.

**To our community of staff,  
volunteers and supporters,  
thank you for all that you  
have done in 2023, and  
every year, to support  
people affected by cancer  
in Ireland.**



# Fundraising review

**In 2023 we saw a return to a full Daffodil Day programme with engagement across the country, on streets, in schools, colleges and workplaces. Daffodil Day 2023 achieved income of €5.8million.**

Once again, our volunteer community and the Irish public were overwhelming in their generosity. We saw more volunteers take to the streets and hold events, demonstrating the strength of the cancer community. Our online adaptations and new initiatives developed in recent years stayed strong, helping us to reach this remarkable result.

Over the course of 2023 we raised €21 million through donations, legacies and fundraising campaigns. This is an incredible increase of €1.3 million (+6%) on 2022. New ways of connecting to communities and new ways of giving, continued, sustained and augmented some of our most popular campaigns.

## Achieving our objectives

Our objectives for 2023 were to continue to innovate to ensure we retain and maintain some of our most loved campaigns together with some new initiatives. We continued to develop our best-in-class donor experience, volunteer stewardship and brand profile, all of which resulted in strong results overall and a strong foundation to maintain a sustainable fundraising stream. We worked with amazing corporate partners with workplace fundraising, employee wellness programmes and public facing fundraising, all the while, demonstrating the Irish Cancer Society's purpose and impact. We continued to build our philanthropic messaging and offering, working with trusts, foundations, and individual major donors.

## How did we do

### Campaigns

Outside of our Daffodil day, the national campaign calendar was a busy one. Our Relay for Life campaign saw its first ever national event in the Aviva stadium with our Ambassador Shane Filan. The event created great awareness and generated interest in the Relay for Life brand. We also saw two new Relays take place last year in Westport and Clondalkin and overall, we brought in more than our target, with €800,000 raised. Our Colour Dash Campaign returned in 2023 to Phoenix Park with roughly 1,500 supporters taking part to support our children, adolescent and young adult (CAYA) services. Our breast cancer campaign, Big Pink Breakfast, went into its second year with supporters across the country hosting Big Pink Breakfasts in communities and companies nationwide. Christmas continued to bring a season of goodwill from supporters who responded to our campaign by purchasing donation cards, Christmas ornaments and providing general donations, seeing us surpass our overall target and raising over €450,000.



Daffodil Day volunteers



Irish Cancer Society Volunteer

**Once again, our volunteer community and the Irish public were overwhelming in their generosity.**



## Corporate

We are grateful for continued and new support from companies such as Primark, Boots, Leinster Rugby, EY, Google, Fane Valley, FreeNow, Revolut, IDA Ireland and Ticketmaster. Our partnership with Primark supporting breast cancer patients raised over €200,000 for the Society and we provided breast cancer awareness information stands and breast check demonstrations for the public in nine Penneys stores throughout October, reaching over 2,500 people. Our Cancer Awareness Workplace programme carried out 68 cancer awareness presentations and information stands, with an estimated reach of 6,700 people in 2023. Our programme was brought to An Post, JP Morgan, Aldi, Tesco, Pfizer, ESB, LinkedIn and many more throughout 2023.

## Community fundraising

Together with contributing to the amazing success of Daffodil Day, our community team across the country had a really strong year. Hurling For Cancer Research made a move to Netwatch Cullen Park in Carlow, raising over €150,000. Its success was mirrored by other long-standing events including the Moylagh JFK 50 Mile and Innishannon Steam and Vintage Rally both of which raised in excess of €100,000. In the active challenge space, 2023 continued to see incredible growth with total income exceeding €1 million for the first time ever, reaching almost €1.5 million. This was fuelled largely by a team of over 450 people taking on the Dublin Marathon, raising in excess of €850,000 and almost 400 runners taking on the Dublin Women's Mini Marathon raising in excess of €160,000.

## Committed giving

With renewed confidence in the marketplace, face-to-face fundraising performed well to recruit new monthly donors 1% ahead of target. Our in-person representation through partner channels brought

positive conversations, engaging connections, heightened trust and credibility and awareness of cancer supports for everyone in need. A range of recruitment channels were trialled to include Direct Response TV and social media. Retention emails and call campaigns worked well to keep supporters engaged, informed and updated on news and developments made possible by their donations.

## Special appeals

Special appeals achieved 96% of target, a strong result in a market still stabilising post-pandemic and Cost-of-living crisis. Campaigns centred on powerful stories with the launch of a children's cancer appeal driving generous donations to help people affected by cancer.

## Digital giving

"In memory" digital donations increased by 30% on 2022 income, with a quarter of that total coming through Fundraise Up. Fundraise Up is our new platform, where a digital "in memory" card can be sent to a loved one's family.

We are continuing to develop new ways to improve our supporters' experience and encourage tribute donations, as Facebook tribute gifts as a mode of giving declines. Increased presence on existing sites, weddingsonline and RIP.ie, and implementation of new platforms, like Fundraise Up, will increase visibility of these gifts and revenue.

## Major donors and philanthropy

It was an important year for major donor events, with the very first Daffodil Lunch taking place and the Ceiling Breakers Ball. We were successful in grant funding through the Toy Show Appeal, we also welcomed five new foundations; these combined resulted in an uplift in year on year giving.

## Our objectives for 2024

- Continue to maintain brand prominence and demonstrate our impact.
- Continue to strive for excellence in our donor engagement.
- Augment new campaigns while we continue to build the growth of our fundraising portfolio of activity, at all times conscious of consumer sentiment.
- Build on our philanthropic partnerships.



EY Team with Malahide Women on Daffodil Day



Participants get ready to kick off their 5km run at Colour Dash 2023 in Dublin's Phoenix Park



# Financial review

**2023 was a strong year for the Irish Cancer Society. Thanks to the generous help of its valued supporters, volunteers and employees, the Society managed to raise €28.7m, up 8% on 2022.**

In 2023, the Society's total income was €28.7m (2022: €26.6m), an increase of €2.1m (8%) on prior year. The Society's total expenditure for 2023 was €31.0m (2022: €27.1m), an increase of €3.9m (14%) on prior year.

## Income

The vast majority of 2023 income came from the generous support of the public, through fundraising campaigns, donations, legacies and charity shop sales. Grants from the State represented only 5% of the Society's total income (2022: 5%).

Income	2023	2022
Donations And Legacies	€21.1m	€19.8m
Trading Activities	€4.8m	€4.2m
Charitable Activities	€2.7m	€2.4m
Other	€0.1m	€0.2m
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>€28.7m</b>	<b>€26.6m</b>

On 24 March 2023, the Society ran a successful community and street-based Daffodil Day event, which raised a total of €5.8m in income (2022: €4.7m).

### Donations and legacies

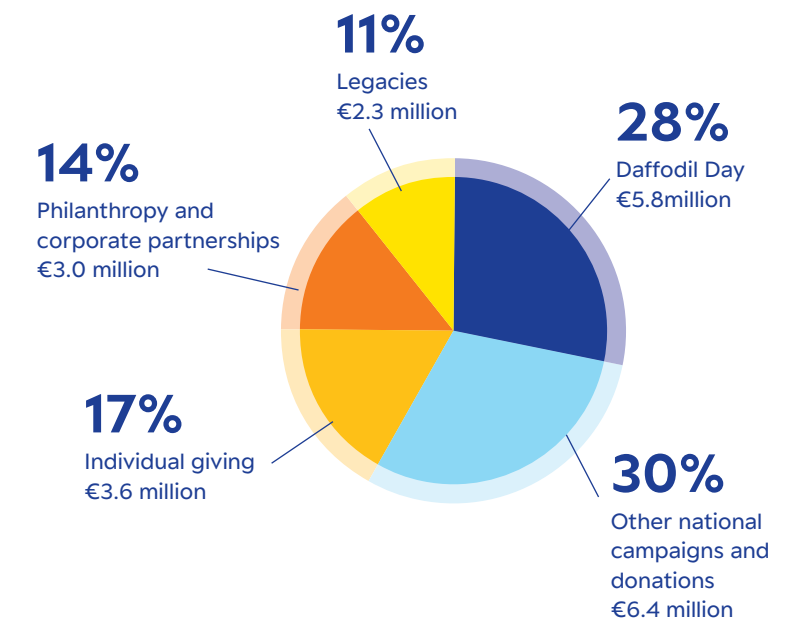
Income from donations and legacies in 2023 was €21.1m. This was €1.3m higher than in 2022.

### Donations

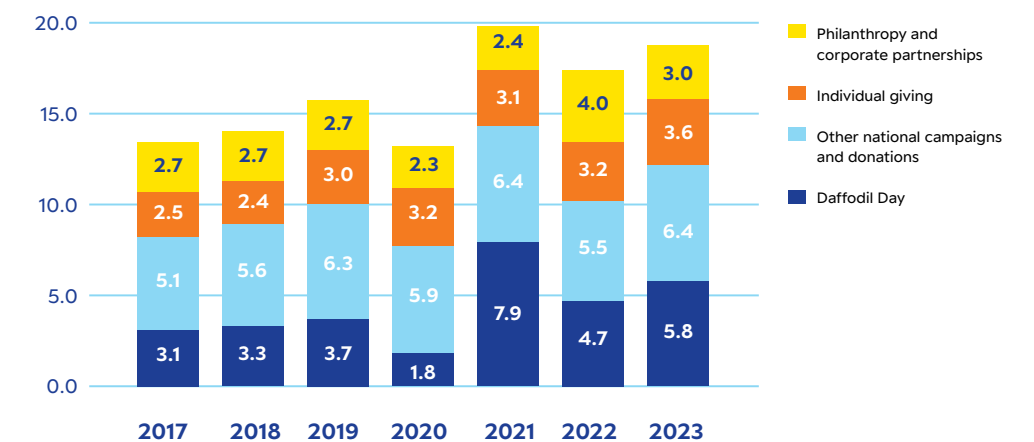
The Society received €18.8m in donations in 2023 (2022: €17.4m). The 2023 Daffodil Day campaign proved to be the second most successful one in the Society's history, raising a total of €5.8m (2022: €4.7m). Other national campaigns and donations contributed a total of €6.4m in 2023 (2022: €5.5m). The Society managed to grow its 2023 level of individual giving income to €3.6m (2022: €3.2m); this was due to a number of successful special appeal campaigns, and a continued investment in the Society's door-to-door individual giving programme. Income from philanthropy and corporate partnerships totalled €3.0m in 2023, a 25% decrease on 2022; a donation of €1.0m was received by the Society in 2022. Overall, in spite of the challenging economic situation, and the competing demands on the public's disposable income, the Society successfully managed to grow its total donations by 8%; this was achieved across many income streams, and thanks to numerous innovative fundraising initiatives.

The Society's donations have been increasing steadily since 2017, with the exception of the two years that were impacted by COVID-19 restrictions; 2020 showed a significant decrease due to fundraising efforts having been curtailed with no time to plan, while 2021 showed a significant increase, due to a number of successful once-off fundraising initiatives. 2022 was the first year, since 2019, that the Society ran traditional face-to-face events, and the Society built upon these in 2023.

## 2023 Donations and Legacies



## Donations 2017-2023



### Legacies

The Society's income from legacies was €2.3m in 2023, a decrease of €0.1m on 2022. Legacy income is unpredictable, and tends to fluctuate year on year.

### Trading activities

Income from the Society's 21 (2022: 21) charity shops increased by €0.6m (15%) compared with 2022. This increase was driven by increased demand across all of the Society's shops. Overall, the charity shops contributed a surplus of €1.5m in 2023 (2022: €1.0m).

### Charitable activities

Income from charitable activities of €2.7m was €0.3m higher than in 2022. This income includes grants from the HSE and NCCP to support the Society's night nursing and Travel2Care programmes, and reimbursements for night nursing services provided.

### Other income

Other income of €0.1m was in line with 2022; this includes income from the VAT Compensation Scheme.

Income from government agencies represented 5% of the Society's total income in 2023 (2022: 5%).



## Expenditure

In 2023, the Society invested €31.0m (2022: €27.1m) in furtherance of its goals.

Expenditure	2023	2022
Charitable Activities	€20.9m	€18.3m
Fundraising Activities	€6.8m	€5.7m
Trading Activities	€3.3m	€3.1m
Total Expenditure	€31.0m	€27.1m

For every euro spent by the Society, 75c (2022: 76c) went on charitable activities (not including trading activities). A further 25c (2022: 24c) was spent by the Society to raise money to fund its charitable activities. This increase was due to an increased investment in the Society's national campaigns, and individual giving campaigns.

### Charitable activities

Expenditure in relation to charitable activities in 2023 was €20.9m (2022: €18.3m), an increase of €2.6m (14%) in relation to 2022. This increase was due to the Society having spent an additional €0.3m in relation to its Transport Service, an additional €0.2m in relation to its survivorship service, an additional €0.2m in relation to its night nursing service, and an additional €0.7m in relation to its Children Adolescents and Young Adults (CAYA) service.

The Society has been increasing its charitable activities spend since 2018, in line with its strategic goals, and it is expected that this trend will continue.

### Fundraising activities

€6.8m was spent on fundraising activities (2022: €5.7m), an increase of €1.1m (19%) on 2022 expenditure. This increase was due to the Society increasing its investment in its individual giving programmes, as well as increasing its efforts in promoting national fundraising campaigns.

For every euro spent on fundraising activities in 2023, the Society raised €3.00 in donations and legacies (2022: €3.50).

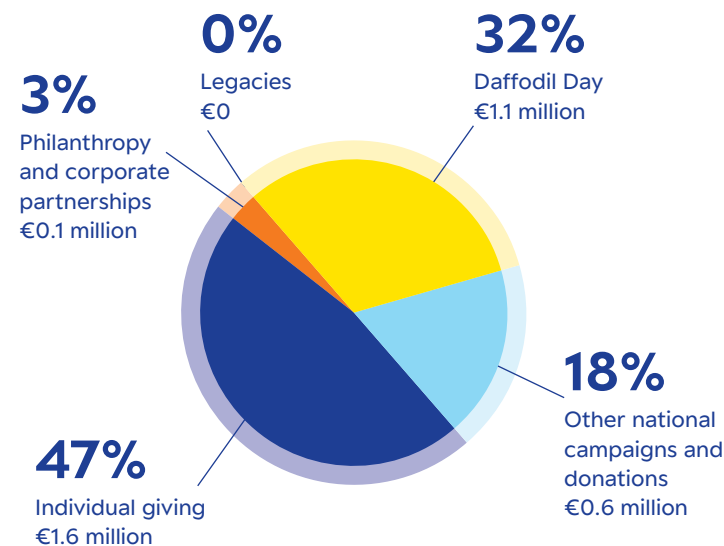
### Support costs

Support costs are costs which cannot be directly attributed to a particular activity and have been allocated accordingly. These include costs relating to information and technology, human resources, finance, governance and other central functions. These services play a crucial role in providing core organisational support in the delivery of the Society's charitable goals. The total support costs for the year were €4.0m (2022: €3.6m). The main drivers for the increase in costs was an investment in the Society's IT and compliance infrastructure, and in HR training and organisational planning; these costs were incurred in line with the Society's strategic goals.

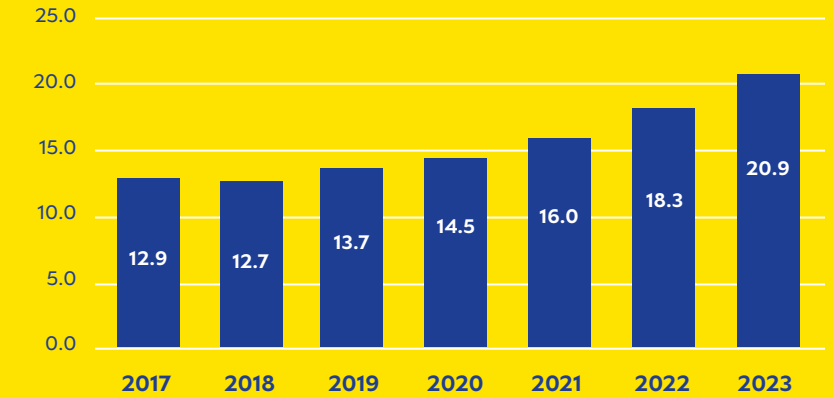
### Trading activities

Trading activities spend was €3.3m, which was an increase of €0.2m (6%) on 2022. The increase was due to an overall increase in costs.

## 2023 fundraising campaign direct expenditure



## Charitable activities expenditure 2017-2022



## Financial position and reserves policy

The Society's reserves policy is to hold adequate reserves so that it can continue to provide critical services through challenging economic times, as well as be in a position to take advantage of unexpected opportunities to improve the lives of those affected by cancer.

An adequate and working reserves policy provides essential accountability to the Society's beneficiaries, public supporters and other stakeholders, and assures them that the Society's activities are sustainable.

The Society's reserves policy aims to minimise liquidity risk. The Society holds a portion of its reserves on deposit with reputable financial institutions. Funds that are not required for operational purposes in the medium term are managed by the Society's investment advisors and invested in marketable securities.

The Society regularly monitors levels of cash and investments to ensure that it can meet its expenditure commitments.

The Finance Committee regularly assesses the counterparty risk with institutions that hold Society funds. In addition, the Finance Committee reviews annually the allocation of funds to the investment portfolio.

The Society seeks to maintain an amount equivalent to approximately 6 months of annual expenditure in cash and investments. However, the actual amount maintained in cash and investments will vary depending on short and medium-term needs, as well as on income forecasts and the prevailing economic climate.

The available resources at 31 December 2023 were €30.2m (2022: €31.9m). Of this, €0.3m (2022: €0.9m) was held in restricted funds, as the funds were donated for specific purposes. €21.2m (2022: €30.0m) was held in general funds, and €8.8m (2022: €1.0m) was held in designated funds. At 31 December 2023, the Society held 11.9 months of expenditure in cash and investments, on a €30m expenditure basis (31 December 2022: 11.8 months on a €30m expenditure basis). During 2020, the Society launched a new ambitious five-year strategy; this level of cash and investments will allow expenditure on programmes under this strategy. The Society has budgeted for a deficit in 2024 as it continues to invest in a number of initiatives to improve the lives of those affected by cancer. The current level of reserves will enable the Society to continue to deliver critical services to those affected by cancer, despite the current uncertain economic environment.

### Designated funds

€8.8m was held in the designated fund at the year-end. This balance represents the level of multi-annual research commitments that have yet to be recognised in the Society's income and expenditure account, in accordance with the Society's accounting policy.

### Investment policy and performance

The Society's main investment objectives are:

- To preserve the value of its investments.
- To maintain the real value of its investments against inflation.

The Society engages the services of suitably qualified investment advisors to provide unbiased and impartial investment advice in accordance with the investment policy. The Society's investment advisors manage the Society's investment portfolio on its behalf, and are responsible for considering all financially material matters in relation to the selection, retention, and realisation of investments.

The Society mandates its investment advisors to ensure that the Society's investments are in line with established responsible investment principles. The Society's responsible investment strategy is to enhance the long-term value of its investments by managing environmental, social and governance risks, whilst balancing risk and return, with capital preservation taking precedence over potential return. In addition to this, the Society has a policy of excluding investments in certain types of securities that are contrary to the Society's charitable mission.

All of the Society's investments are held in securities that can be converted to cash promptly.

The Society's attitude to risk in respect of its investment portfolio is low to moderate.

The Society seeks to maintain an amount equivalent to approximately 6 months of annual expenditure in cash and investments; on a €30m annual expenditure basis, this would be €15m. However, the actual amount maintained in cash and investments will vary depending on short and medium-term needs, as well as on income forecasts and the prevailing investment climate.

A review of both the reserves and investment policies is conducted regularly. During 2023, the Society's invested funds yielded an average return of +8.6% (2022: -18.2%). There was a gain on investments of €0.6m in 2023 (2022: loss of €1.5m).

### Accounting records

The Directors have taken the following measures to secure compliance with the requirements of sections 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014 with regard to the keeping of accounting records: the employment of appropriately qualified accounting personnel and the maintenance of computerised accounting systems. The Society's accounting records are maintained at the Society's registered office at 43/45 Northumberland Road, Dublin 4.

### Disclosure of information to auditors

In the case of each of the persons who are Directors at the time, the Directors' report and financial statements are approved;

- So far as the Director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Society's auditors are unaware; and
- Each Director has taken all steps that ought to have been taken by the Director in order to make himself/herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Society's auditors are aware of that information.

The auditors, Deloitte Ireland LLP, Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm, continue in office in accordance with Section 383(2) of the Companies Act 2014.

# The Society regularly monitors levels of cash and investments to ensure that it can meet its expenditure commitments.



# Structure, governance and management

## Organisational structure

The Irish Cancer Society is a company limited by guarantee and registered as a charity with the Charities Regulatory Authority. The Society is governed by its Constitution which provides for a member-based organisation with the following charitable aims (as of 2023):

- to foster, promote, and advance the relief, cure, treatment, prevention, lessening and alleviation of cancer or any disease of an allied or similar nature.
- to promote research devoted to the study of the origin and causes, relief, cure, treatment, prevention, lessening and alleviation of cancer, or any disease of an allied or similar nature.

The Irish Cancer Society has a subsidiary company, Irish Cancer Society Research Limited, which was incorporated in Ireland in 1991. The company ceased trading at the end of 2013. The company currently has two Directors, Ger Penny and Allan Kearns, who were appointed on 5 March 2020 and 1 July 2021, respectively.

## Members

There are currently 47 members of the Irish Cancer Society, nine of whom are Directors. Each member guarantees to contribute up to one euro twenty-seven cent (€1.27) to the Society's debts, liabilities, and costs in the event of it being wound up.

## Board of Directors

The Society has a voluntary Board of Directors. The Directors are responsible for the governance and overall oversight of the organisation and its activities. The Board met seven times during the year including six scheduled Board meetings and one ad-hoc meeting.

The Board delegates day-to-day operational management to the Chief Executive Officer, Averil Power, who is supported by the Executive Leadership Team ("Management").

The Board manages its work through a number of committees, comprising Directors and external volunteers, each of which is chaired by a Director of the Board. The Society values the benefits of having committee members from a diverse range of backgrounds, expertise, and experience.

All Directors and committee members are non-Executive and do not receive fees for their contribution to the Society, however, out-of-pocket expenses may be claimed.

### Appointments/retirements

Directors are appointed by the Board for 6 years. This can be extended by the Board by a further three years, if such extension serves the best interests of the Society. Board committee Chairs are appointed for three years, which can be further extended by the Board.

The Chair of the Board is elected annually, by the Board, for a maximum term of three years, which can be extended by a further one year in exceptional circumstances. In June 2023, the Board agreed to extend the Chair's term by a further year. The Board felt there were a number of exceptional circumstances to warrant the extension – the Society is mid-term in an ambitious strategy; to provide Board leadership in a number of large-scale multi-year strategic commitments; to oversee governance changes already underway. For these reasons, the Board felt Chair continuity and stability was important.

Each year one third of Directors are subject to retirement by rotation. In 2023, Brid Horan, Allan Kearns, and Mary Canavan, offered themselves for re-election and were duly re-elected. In May 2023 Dr Cormac Kilty retired from the Board and as Chair of the Research Advisory Committee. Dr Mary Canavan was appointed to replace him as Chair of the Research Advisory Committee. In December 2023, Prof Liam Grogan also retired from the Board.

Director nomination and recruitment is overseen by the Board Effectiveness Committee. The Committee undertook a Board and Committee skills review in 2023, and following on from this, recommended to the Board the recruitment of an additional Board member, and additional Committee members.

Two new Committee members were appointed during 2023. Kim McCann was appointed to the Audit and Risk Committee and Dr Ann Brady was appointed to the

Research Advisory Committee. In January 2024, Prof Janice Walshe was appointed to the Board, to replace Prof Liam Grogan.

The Board extended the tenure of one Director serving over six years, by one year – Prof Sinead Brennan. The extension was made due to her particular medical and cancer expertise, and as the other Board member with clinical expertise had recently retired from the Board.

In 2023 the Board undertook a review of the Constitution including examining Director, Committee and Chair of the Board tenure.

### Induction and training

All new Directors receive a comprehensive induction, overseen by Management, in line with the Induction Policy. Directors meet with the Chair, the Chief Executive, and other members of the Executive Leadership Team. During their induction they receive an overview of the Society's activities, the strategic plan, an outline of their regulatory and statutory duties, and the Society's governance framework. In addition, they are provided with a comprehensive induction pack including the Society's Governance Manual. Going forward, Committee Chairs will also be consulted on the induction needs of any newly appointed Committee members.

Board training is considered by the Chair and CEO annually. Board members attend external training as it arises and are also provided with briefings from the Executive Leadership Team throughout the year. In 2023 the Board took part in two development sessions. In September, a Board away day was held, and a presentation on the wider cancer and health services landscape was provided. Alongside this, the Board considered a mid-term strategy review. In addition, the Board and ELT took part in training around not-for-profit strategy and innovation.

In 2024 the Board is planning governance and ESG training.

### Board evaluation

The Board reviews its own effectiveness each year and commissions an external Board evaluation every three years. In late 2022, the Board Effectiveness Committee oversaw a Board self-evaluation. The results were presented to the Board Effectiveness Committee and the Board in early 2023. In 2023 Governance Ireland were commissioned to conduct an external Board evaluation of the Board and its sub-Committees.

## The Board reviews its own effectiveness each year and commissions an external Board evaluation every three years.

The results from the evaluation were positive, and overall, the Board scored in the best practice range. Some areas of improvement identified were – to further develop ESG objectives; enhance stakeholder engagement; define the Board and ELT division of responsibilities; expand review of the Board skills; formalise executive succession planning in the Board/ sub-Committee workplan. The Board Effectiveness Committee is now overseeing implementation of these recommendations.

#### Good governance

Good governance is fundamental to our sustained success as a charity. The Society operates a culture of constant improvement in relation to our governance procedures and policies. In 2023 areas of focus for the Board and the ELT were the external Board Evaluation, a review of the Committees terms of reference, a review of the financial policies, and Board and Committee diversity and succession planning. In addition, a full review of the Society's Constitution was undertaken. The scope was to review the charitable purpose of the Society, and ensure the Constitution supports our legislative and regulatory obligations and reflects best practice in corporate governance. The review is now complete.

#### Conflict of interest

The Society has a conflict-of-interest policy, and all Directors and external committee members sign a conflict-of-interest form annually. Conflict-of-interest is a standing agenda item at all Board and committee

meetings. If a Director or a member has a conflict of interest they must declare it, and a judgement will be made on the most appropriate course of action given the materiality and nature of the conflict. Directors also sign a register-of-interests declaration annually declaring their interests, and a register of interests is maintained by the Company Secretary. In addition, all Directors sign up to a Board Code of Conduct.

There were no instances or arrangements during 2023 whereby a Director was materially interested in the Company's activities.

#### Meetings

The following Board and committee meetings were held in 2023:

Meetings held *	
Board of Directors	7
Finance Committee	7
Audit and Risk Committee	4
Board Effectiveness Committee	4
Research Advisory Committee	2

The following table shows Directors for the financial year 2023 and their attendance at Board meetings during the year. In addition, it shows Directors' appointment and retirement dates (where applicable).

Director	Attendance	Date of appointment	Date of retirement
Brid Horan (Chair)	7 of 7	13 Jul 20	
Prof Liam Grogan	5 of 7	22 Nov 12	6 Dec 2023
Dr Cormac Kilty	2 of 2	19 Feb 15	5 May 2023
Prof Sinead Brennan	7 of 7	01 Sep 16	
Ger Penny	6 of 7	05 Mar 20	
Alex White	4 of 7	25 Mar 20	
Irene O'Gorman	7 of 7	25 Mar 20	
Allan Kearns	6 of 7	01 Jul 21	
Dr Mary Canavan	6 of 7	8 Sep 21	
Maria Fleming	7 of 7	1 Sep 22	

#### Executive leadership team

The Management team is led by the Chief Executive Officer, Averil Power, and it manages day to day operations of the Society.

The current Management team is made up of the following positions:

- CEO, Averil Power
- Director of Finance & Corporate Services, Jennifer Owens (appointed February 2023)
- Director of Services, Corrinne Hasson
- Director of Advocacy & Communications, Steve Dempsey (appointed March 2024)
- Director of Fundraising & Marketing, Rosemary Simmons (appointed December 2023)
- Director of People, Strategy & Innovation, Anne Byrne
- Director of Clinical Affairs, Amy Nolan (appointed October 2023)

Matters such as policy, strategic planning and budgets are drafted by Management for consideration and approval by the Board, which then monitors the implementation of these plans.

#### Board committees

In 2020 the Board oversaw a review of its Board committee structure to ensure alignment with the Society's new Strategic Plan 2020-2025. The Board delegates specific responsibilities to the Board committees, each of which has a detailed terms of reference and reports to the Board. Each committee is chaired by a Board member, has at least one other Director as a member, and can co-opt external committee members as required. A review of the terms of reference for each Board sub-committee is underway, to be completed in 2024.

#### Finance committee

The Finance Committee exercises, on behalf of the Board, supervisory oversight of all aspects of the Society's finances. It monitors financial performance and oversees management of the investment portfolio on an ongoing basis. It also reviews the annual budget for recommendation to the Board.

**Report of 2023 activity:** During 2023, the Finance Committee monitored the Society's monthly management accounts, income and expenditure trends, investment performance, financial projections, and reserve levels. It also oversaw the 2024 budgeting process and was notified of any significant payments and commitments. Additionally, the Committee reviewed the trading performance of the Society's twenty-one charity shops.

Finance committee attendance 2023	
Ger Penny (Chair)	6 of 7
Irene O'Gorman	5 of 7
Maria Fleming	6 of 7

#### Audit and risk committee

The Audit and Risk Committee assists the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities by independently reviewing the annual report including the financial statements, overseeing the internal and external audit, reviewing the effectiveness of the Society's internal controls, as well as adherence to the Charities Regulator's Governance Code. It also monitors the Society's risk management, oversees regulatory and legislative compliance, and provides an assessment of risk processes and policies to the Board.

**Report of 2023 activity:** The Committee oversaw the Society's relationship with their external auditors, Deloitte. This included reviewing the audit work plan, considering Deloitte's key findings, including recommendations on internal controls, and ultimately recommending the Annual Report to the Board. The Committee was updated on compliance with the Governance Code, and the Society's obligations as a section 39 organisation, as well as enhancements in cyber security and health and safety. The Committee oversaw a review of the Society's risk management framework, including a new risk register and risk management policy. In addition, Mazars were appointed to provide internal audit services.

Audit & risk attendance 2023	
Allan Kearns (Chair)	4 of 4
Dr Cormac Kilty *	1 of 1
Alex White	4 of 4
Kim McCann *	3 of 3

\* In May 2023 Dr Cormac Kilty stepped down as a member of the Committee and Kim McCann was appointed.

#### Board effectiveness committee

The Board Effectiveness Committee oversees the nomination, recruitment, and on-going training, as necessary, of Directors. It also supports Board and Committee composition and effectiveness.

**Report of 2023 activity:** The Committee reviewed Board and Committee composition and skills and considered succession planning. One new Board member and two new Committee members were recommended to the Board for appointment. The Committee reviewed the results of the 2022 Board self-evaluation and oversaw the commissioning of an external Board evaluation, by Governance Ireland. It oversaw the development of a new major projects process and considered CEO and Executive succession planning. In addition, it supported the Board in a review of the Society's Constitution.



Board effectiveness attendance 2023	
Brid Horan (Chair)	4 of 4
Ger Penny	2 of 4
Dr Cormac Kilty	0 of 0
Dr Mary Canavan *	4 of 4
Allan Kearns	4 of 4
Jennifer Owens (ELT)	2 of 2
Averil Power (CEO)	4 of 4

\* Dr Mary Canavan joined the Committee in May 2023, and Dr Cormac Kilty stepped down. Jennifer Owens joined as an Executive representative in May 2023.

#### Research advisor committee

The Research Advisory Committee reviews and evaluates the research activities and investments of the Society to ensure that they are achieving the objectives set out in the Society's strategic plan. It also ensures that the activities of the research department are in line with the national and international cancer research landscape, in addition to emerging clinical and patient needs.

**Report of 2023 activity:** The Committee met twice in the year. It reviewed the activities and plans for the research department, advised the Board on research elements in the strategy and reviewed the research budget for 2023. The Committee oversaw the implementation of the third year of our five-year research roadmap. It also provided feedback to the Society on how to make research investments that provide the greatest impact to those with cancer.

Research advisory attendance 2023	
Dr Cormac Kilty * (Chair)	1 of 1
Prof Sir Alex Markham	2 of 2
Dr Susan Gapstur	2 of 2
Prof John Reynolds	2 of 2
Dr Mary Canavan *	2 of 2
Dr Ann Brady	1 of 2

\* In May 2023 Dr Cormac Kilty stepped down as Chair of the Committee and Dr Mary Canavan was appointed as Chair. In May 2023, Dr Ann Brady joined as a member of the Committee.

#### Commitment to best practice in corporate governance

The Board operates to the highest governance standards and codes of conduct. A strong governance culture ensures that the Society is best placed to deliver on its mission and achieve its objectives. This is achieved by a continual focus on the Society's statutory and regulatory obligations, regular risk reviews, and by

promoting a compliance-centric culture throughout the organisation.

During 2020 a detailed analysis of the Society's compliance with the Charities Regulator Governance Code was undertaken. As required by the Regulator, the Society will continue to review compliance on an annual basis. In 2023 the Board reviewed the Society's compliance status and was satisfied the Society is compliant with the Governance Code, Guidelines for Charitable Organisations on Fundraising from the Public and Internal Financial Controls Guidelines for Charities. The Society has reported compliance with the Governance Code to the Regulator. During the year, further consideration was given to the Society's compliance with its section 39 obligations.

In addition, the Society is compliant in the following areas:

- Compliant relevant obligations under the Companies Act 2014 and the Charities Act 2009.
- Compliant with the Charities Institute Ireland triple lock standards.
- Annual Report is in accordance with FRS 102 and Charities SORP.
- Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015

We have lodged all our required filings with the Companies Registration Office (CRO) and the Charities Regulator.

#### Directors' compliance statement

The Society is required to prepare a Section 225 Compliance Statement (Companies Act 2014), for 2023, and as a matter of best practice commits to making this compliance statement annually.

The Directors acknowledge that they are responsible for securing compliance by the company with its relevant obligations as set out in Section 225 of the Companies Act.

The Directors further confirm that there is a Compliance Policy Statement in place setting out the company's policies which, in the Directors' opinion, are appropriate to ensure compliance with the company's relevant obligations.

For the year ended 31 December 2023 the Directors, with the assistance of the Audit and Risk Committee, have conducted a review of the arrangements and structures in place. Arising out of this the Directors can confirm that appropriate arrangements and structures are in place which, in the opinion of the Directors, are designed to secure material compliance with the company's relevant obligations.

### Risk framework



#### Risk management and internal control

##### Risk management

Risk management is a cornerstone of good governance and is critical in enabling and facilitating an organisation to meet its objectives. The Society's risk management process is supported by its governance structure. Whilst the Directors are responsible for ensuring there is effective risk management and an appropriate internal control environment, Management is responsible for the day-to-day operation of its risk processes.

In 2023, the Board, overseen by the Audit and Risk Committee, undertook a comprehensive review of the Society's risk management framework. This entailed some external training for the Management, a review and redraft of the risk register template and the principal risks contained therein, and the development of a new Risk Management policy.

As part of this review a new risk register was developed, with associated risk mitigation strategies, and risk owners, to ensure the Society is not exposed to an unacceptable level of preventable risk. Under the new policy there are regular reviews of the risk register by the Management and reporting to the Board. In 2024 the focus is on embedding the new framework and reviewing the risk appetite with the Board.

##### Internal audit

Annually, the Audit and Risk Committee considers the internal audit needs of the Society, based on our risk management profile and the results of the internal and external audit, and selects the relevant controls for independent testing.

In 2023 the following areas were selected for internal audit:

- expenses and expenditure controls
- cybersecurity
- cash handling controls and health and safety in the Society's charity shops.

In late 2023, following a tender process overseen by the Audit and Risk Committee, the Board appointed Mazars to act as the Society's internal auditor for 2024-2026.

The Board have approved the following areas for audit in 2024:

- cybersecurity
- human resources.

The Audit and Risk Committee will oversee the internal audit function and receive reports and updates from the auditors. The formalising of an independent internal audit function is a significant step in providing additional assurance to the Board on the effectiveness of the Society's governance framework.

##### Fraud

As an organisation we have a zero-tolerance attitude to fraud. The Society minimises the risk of fraud through a strong internal control environment, a compliance culture, staff training on fraud and a protected disclosure system. In 2023 the Protected Disclosures Policy was updated and approved by the Audit and Risk Committee. There were no protected disclosures in 2023. In addition, the Society maintains a complaints register. In 2024 we plan to conduct staff training on fraud and the protected disclosures policy.

The following are examples of some principal risks we have identified, along with our actions to manage them:

Risk Area	Risk Outcome	Principal Risk Mitigation
<b>Maintaining Service Quality</b>	The risk of failing to deliver excellence in care to our patients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular supervision of direct service employees with a strong employee induction</li> <li>Regular service evaluations carried out to monitor the effectiveness of our work</li> <li>Monitoring the Health &amp; Safety of staff with robust incident reporting</li> <li>Ongoing development of the most appropriate information systems</li> <li>Adherence to appropriate guidelines with clear policies and procedures guiding our work</li> <li>Staff training plans in place including Child &amp; Adult Safeguarding</li> </ul>
<b>Failure to meet cancer patients' needs</b>	The risk that the Society will fail to respond and adapt to the needs of cancer patients in the current environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Growing feedback mechanisms with patients and key stakeholders</li> <li>Continued expansion of core services to meet patients' needs</li> <li>Regular engagement with key state stakeholders &amp; decision makers to advocate on behalf of patients' needs</li> <li>Funding research to understand emerging and changing needs</li> <li>Timely and effective media campaigns</li> </ul>
<b>Income Sustainability</b>	The risk of failing to protect our planned fundraising growth from external economic factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Build on brand recognition and brand strategy</li> <li>Develop improvements in donor journey and engagement</li> <li>Consistent monitoring of the fundraising landscape</li> <li>Multi year financial planning which aligns with strategy and required funding levels</li> <li>Diversified funding approach</li> </ul>
<b>Reputational Risks</b>	The risk of damage to the reputation of the Society either through an internal failure in standards or external factors in the wider charity sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Society holds the 'Triple Lock Membership' which provides assurances with regard to ethical fundraising, transparent reporting under Charities SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice) (FRS 102) and the principles of good governance</li> <li>Strong policies &amp; procedures in place across the Society to ensure good governance</li> <li>Robust media and communications function in place which is supported by policies, training and strong communications protocol</li> <li>Compliant with Charities Regulator Governance Code</li> <li>Engagement with wider sectoral bodies e.g. The Wheel, Charities Institute Ireland</li> <li>Third party contracts subject to due diligence to reduce reputational risk</li> </ul>
<b>Our People</b>	The risk that the Society will not be able to attract and retain talent at all levels including staff and volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring the Society offers an attractive and competitive employer proposition</li> <li>Implementation of the Society's people strategy and investment in staff development</li> <li>Workforce and succession planning and ongoing monitoring of critical areas</li> <li>Flexible working, wellbeing programme and employee benefits in place</li> <li>Dedicated volunteer management team to advance the volunteer experience</li> <li>Board succession planning in place</li> </ul>
<b>Information Management</b>	The risk of a breach of information security leading to data loss / interruption to our critical services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anti-virus software and firewalls are in place on all IT systems and ongoing cyber security awareness training</li> <li>Business Continuity and IT Disaster Recovery Policy is in place</li> <li>Processes and procedures are in place for dealing with data breaches</li> <li>Incident response plan and committee in place with notification to Board level as appropriate</li> <li>Strong induction and annual staff training in GDPR and IT security</li> </ul>

The Board is satisfied that systems and processes are in place to monitor, manage and mitigate the Society's exposure to its major risks.

## Directors' responsibility statement

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' report and the financial statements in accordance with the Companies Act 2014.

Irish company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under the law, the Directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with FRS 102 the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued by the Financial Reporting Council ("relevant financial reporting framework"). Under company law, the Directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at the financial year end date and of the surplus or deficit of the company for the financial year and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014.

In preparing those financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies for the company financial statements and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the applicable accounting standards, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The Directors are responsible for ensuring that the company keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the company, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the company to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements and Directors' report comply with the Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Legislation in Ireland governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The Directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the company's website.

Approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by:



**Brid Horan**  
Director



**Allan Kearns**  
Director

Date: 26th June 2024



# Our Board

Our Board of Directors strive to improve the lives of people affected by cancer.

We asked each of them the following question:  
What inspired you or motivated you to join the Board?



## Brid Horan Chair

Brid has some 30 years' experience in executive and non-executive director roles in private, public, and not-for-profit organisations. She retired as Deputy Chief Executive ESB in 2014. Currently Chancellor of Dublin City University, Chair of Nephin Energy Ltd, and non-executive director of PM Group and Insurance Ireland. Brid previously served on the boards of IDA Ireland, FBD Holdings plc and National Pensions Reserve Fund and as inaugural Co-Chair of Balance for Better Business. Chartered Director and Fellow IOD, Actuary and Lifetime Fellow Irish Management Institute.

**"Once again, the past year brought additional challenges for those affected by cancer and for the Society. Our dedicated staff, volunteers and supporters continued to support cancer patients, their families and cancer survivors through our services, advocacy, investment in research and clinical trials. Their commitment and the generosity of every donor are inspirational, and the Board and I express our sincere gratitude for this."**



## Professor Sinead Brennan

Sinead is a Radiation Oncologist in St Luke's Hospital, Rathgar and in St James's Hospital, Dublin. She is Director of Research at St Luke's Radiation Oncology Network and St Luke's Institute of Cancer Research. She is Chair of the Head and Neck DSSG at Cancer Trials Ireland, and Clinical Associate Professor at Trinity College Dublin. She is clinical lead of The Irish Research Radiation Oncology Group and Chair of the HRB funded Irish Research Radiation Oncology Group.

**"In my role as a radiation oncologist I admire the Irish Cancer Society's work to support cancer patients and to create a better future for patients and their families."**



## Ger Penny

Ger is a qualified accountant and Chartered Director, with more than 35 years' experience gained in operational, strategic, and financial management positions from organisations in Ireland, the UK and Asia. He is CFO of the Sisk Group and also has extensive non-executive director experience from roles on listed and private businesses.

**"I have huge respect for the incredible work which the Society performs on a daily basis. The Society plays an important advocacy role to ensure that cancer care and prevention remain high on all stakeholders' agendas."**



## Irene O'Gorman

Irene is a highly experienced Chief Marketing Officer, currently with KPMG Ireland. Prior to that she has held senior marketing roles with KPMG in the Middle East, The National College of Ireland, EY, and Deloitte. She has also worked in senior marketing roles internationally with financial services and consulting firms in South Africa and Australia.

**"It's a great honour to work with the Irish Cancer Society in support of a mutually shared vision, for a future without cancer."**



## Alex White

Alex White SC is a barrister and mediator. He is director general of the Institute of International and European Affairs and a former government Minister and TD. Prior to commencing legal practice, he was a programme producer with RTÉ.

**"There is huge admiration everywhere for the work and commitment of the Society's staff and volunteers. It is a real privilege to contribute to the Society as a Board member."**



## Allan Kearns

Allan Kearns is a senior manager in the Central Bank of Ireland with over 20 years' experience in economics, governance, analytics, and risk management. He was previously Chair of the Asthma Society of Ireland Board.

**"I am inspired by the broad cross-section of the Irish community drawn together by the Society with a common mission to transform for the better outcomes for patients with cancer. Equally, I am impressed at the high standards of governance the Society sets for itself."**



## Dr Mary Canavan

Dr Mary Canavan is Assistant Professor in Immunology in Trinity College Dublin. Her research group focuses on identifying new treatments for autoimmune diseases such as Rheumatoid Arthritis and Crohn's Disease. Mary is an Irish Cancer Society advocacy champion and PPI reviewer and has spoken publicly about being diagnosed with breast cancer when she was nine weeks pregnant with her first baby.

**"Having suffered from breast cancer myself, I have seen first-hand the difficulties families face after a cancer diagnosis and how vital the Society's support services can be. I joined the Board so I could use this patient experience to help achieve the Society's vision – that by 2025, 3 out of 4 patients will survive their diagnosis."**



## Maria Fleming

Maria Fleming is CEO of First Fortnight, Ireland's mental health arts festival. Maria has over 20 years' experience working as a general manager, producer, programmer, and arts consultant with Ireland's leading companies, including Dublin Theatre Festival, The Ark, Druid Theatre Company, and Irish Modern Dance Theatre. Maria is passionate about social justice. In addition, Maria volunteers as an Advocacy Champion for the Irish Cancer Society.

**"I am proud of the work the Irish Cancer Society do, one recent example is the success they achieved in abolishing day charges in hospitals which is of huge assistance to cancer patients and their families."**

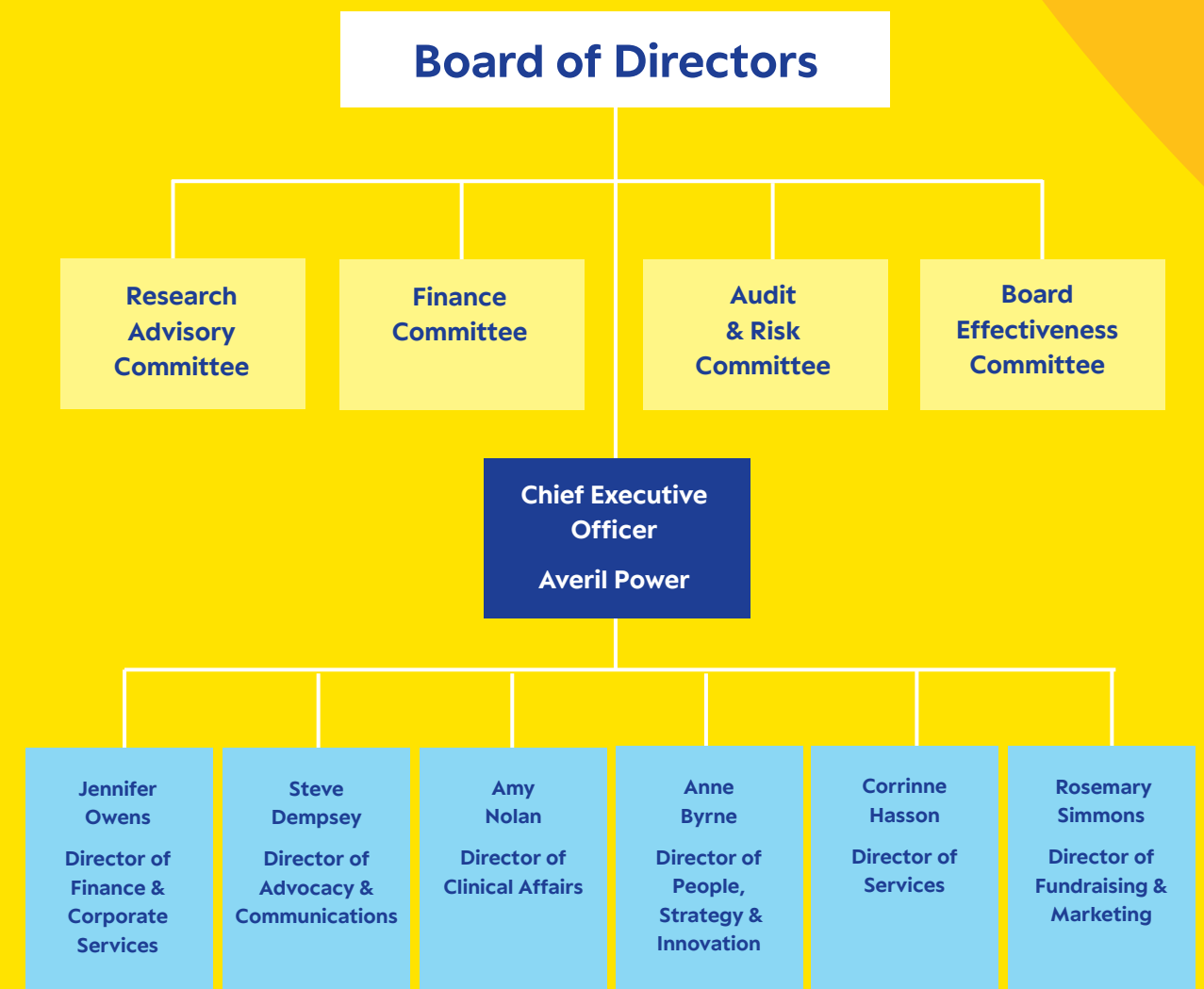


## Professor Janice Walshe

Prof Janice Walshe is a graduate of University of Galway. She completed her specialist training in the Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Dublin and gained a Masters in Molecular Medicine at Trinity College, Dublin. She completed her fellowship in the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, Maryland, where she investigated novel approaches in the treatment of HER2 positive and metastatic breast cancer.

**"As a medical oncologist, I am proud to work with the Irish Cancer Society. Their work ensures the funding of ground breaking research, the support of vulnerable patients affected by cancer and the distribution of truthful information regarding the appropriate management of all cancer types."**

## Irish Cancer Society Organisation Chart





# Financial Statements



Kay McKeon, Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) Champion of the Year Award Winner at the Irish Cancer Society Research Awards 2023

# Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Irish Cancer Society

## Report on the audit of the financial statements

### Opinion on the financial statements of Irish Cancer Society ("the company")

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at 31 December 2023 and of the loss for the financial year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework and, in particular, with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

The financial statements we have audited comprise:

- the Statement of Financial Activities;
- the Balance Sheet;
- the Statement of Cash Flows; and
- the related notes 1 to 27, including a summary of significant accounting policies as set out in note 1.

The relevant financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is the Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' issued by the Financial Reporting Council ("the relevant financial reporting framework").

### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are described below in the "Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements" section of our report.

We are independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

# Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Irish Cancer Society

### Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

### Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (Ireland) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on IAASA's website at: <https://iaasa.ie/publications/description-of-the-auditors-responsibilities-for-the-audit-of-the-financial-statements>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.



## Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Irish Cancer Society

### Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

#### Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2014

Based solely on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, we report that:

- We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit.
- In our opinion the accounting records of the company were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited.
- The financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.
- In our opinion the information given in the directors' report is consistent with the financial statements and the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2014.

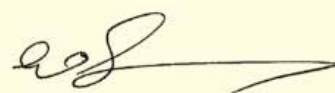
#### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Based on the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the provisions in the Companies Act 2014 which require us to report to you if, in our opinion, the disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions specified by law are not made.

### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



**Emer O'Shaughnessy**

For and on behalf of  
Deloitte Ireland LLP  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm  
Deloitte & Touche House,  
29 Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2

Date: 5 July 2024

## Statement of Financial Activities

	Notes	2023 Unrestricted	2023 Restricted	2023 Designated	2023 Total	2022 Unrestricted	2022 Restricted	2022 Designated	2022 Total
		€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
<b>INCOME:</b>									
Donations and legacies	3(a)	17,821	3,245	-	21,066	15,883	3,926	-	19,809
Trading activities	3(b)	4,765	-	-	4,765	4,155	-	-	4,155
Investments	3(c)	126	-	-	126	122	-	-	122
Charitable activities	3(d)	1,151	1,501	-	2,652	1,022	1,425	-	2,447
Other income	3(e)	73	-	-	73	86	-	-	86
<b>Total income</b>		<b>23,936</b>	<b>4,746</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>28,682</b>	21,268	5,351	-	26,619
<b>EXPENDITURE:</b>									
Charitable activities	4	15,475	5,387	-	20,862	13,388	4,870	-	18,258
Fundraising activities	5	6,800	-	-	6,800	5,723	-	-	5,723
Trading activities		3,291	-	-	3,291	3,099	-	-	3,099
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>25,566</b>	<b>5,387</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>30,953</b>	22,210	4,870	-	27,080
Net gain on investments	13	632	-	-	632	(1,537)	-	-	(1,537)
<b>Net (expenditure) / income</b>	9	<b>(998)</b>	<b>(641)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1,639)</b>	(2,479)	481	-	(1,998)
Taxation	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers between funds	8	(7,800)	-	7,800	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(8,798)</b>	<b>(641)</b>	<b>7,800</b>	<b>(1,639)</b>	(2,479)	481	-	(1,998)
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:</b>									
Funds balances brought forward		29,963	894	1,000	31,857	32,442	413	1,000	33,855
<b>Funds balances carried forward</b>		<b>21,165</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>8,800</b>	<b>30,218</b>	29,963	894	1,000	31,857

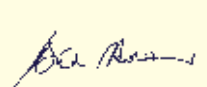
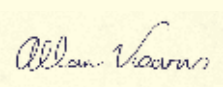
There are no other recognised gains or losses for the financial year except for those listed above. All income and expenditure derives from continuing operations.

The notes on pages 84 to 104 form part of these financial statements.

## Balance sheet

	Notes	2023 €'000	2022 €'000
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible assets	12	8,300	8,567
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>		<b>8,300</b>	<b>8,567</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Investments	13	7,361	6,664
Stocks		190	193
Debtors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	1,560	1,935
Cash at bank and in hand		22,487	22,743
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>31,598</b>	<b>31,535</b>
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	15	<b>(6,435)</b>	<b>(5,956)</b>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>25,163</b>	<b>25,579</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>33,463</b>	<b>34,146</b>
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year</b>			
Long term liabilities	15	(3,245)	(2,289)
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>30,218</b>	<b>31,857</b>
<b>Funds:</b>			
Restricted income funds	8	253	894
<u>Unrestricted income funds</u>			
General income funds		21,165	29,963
Designated income funds		8,800	1,000
<b>Total unrestricted income funds</b>		<b>29,965</b>	<b>30,963</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<b>30,218</b>	<b>31,857</b>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board of directors on 26th June, 2024, and signed on its behalf by:

Brid Horan  
Director

Allan Kearns  
Director

The notes on pages 84 to 104 form part of these financial statements.

## Statement of cash flows

	Notes	2023 €'000	2022 €'000
Cash flows from operating activities:			
<b>Net cash generated by operating activities</b>	18	<b>598</b>	<b>(913)</b>
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Deposit interest received		2	-
Purchase of fixed assets	12	(159)	(211)
<b>Net cash flow from investing activities</b>		<b>(157)</b>	<b>(211)</b>
<b>Increase/(Decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>441</b>	<b>(1,124)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		29,407	30,531
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December</b>		<b>29,848</b>	<b>29,407</b>
<b>Analysis of cash and cash equivalents</b>			
Bank and cash		22,487	22,743
Cash equivalents		7,361	6,664
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December</b>		<b>29,848</b>	<b>29,407</b>



## Notes to the financial statements

### 1. Accounting policies

#### General Information

The purpose of the Irish Cancer Society is to improve the lives of those affected by cancer.

Irish Cancer Society is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee with a charitable status. It is incorporated in the Republic of Ireland, with registration number of 20868. The address of its registered office is 43/45 Northumberland Road, Dublin 4. The Society is a public benefit entity.

#### Statement of Compliance

The financial statements of the Society for the year ended 31 December 2023 have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102"), Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the FRS 102 (Charities SORP – FRS 102), and in accordance with the Irish statute comprising the Companies Act 2014.

#### Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of investments to fair value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS102, and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice, as applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102 (issued by the Charity Commission for England and Wales, the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland and the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator "the Charities SORP"). The presentation and functional currency of these financial statements is euro.

#### Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The Directors have reviewed the 2023 Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet, the approved 2024 budget and the latest financial information. The Directors are satisfied that the Society has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the next 12 months, and as a result are satisfied that there are sufficient resources to manage any operational or financial risks. There is no material uncertainty that affects this assumption.

#### INCOME

Income is analysed in the Statement of Financial Activities under the following headings:

- Donations and legacies
- Trading activities
- Investments
- Charitable activities
- Other Income

Income is recognised when the Society becomes entitled to the funds, receipt is probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Where income has not yet been received, but all criteria for recognition have been satisfied, the income is accrued as a debtor on the Balance Sheet. Where income has been received in advance, it is deferred as a creditor on the Balance Sheet until income recognition conditions are met.

Income arising from tax rebates is recognised on confirmation from the tax authorities of the amount and when there is certainty of receipt.

Grant income is recognised as income when the entitlement to the income has been met, and the Society is legally entitled to the income. Grant income is recognised as income in the year to which it relates.

#### Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when received, or when all criteria for recognition have been satisfied.

Income arising from legacies is recognised when it becomes probable that funds will be received; i.e. where there is a grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached are within the control of the Society.

Donations-in-kind are recognised as income when received. Donations-in-kind are valued at open market value or at a reasonable estimate of the gross value to the Society.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

#### Trading activities

Income from trading activities includes retail income from the sale of donated goods through shops, and income related to the sale of Christmas cards.

Goods donated for resale are accounted for when they are sold rather than when they are donated because the high volume of low value items makes valuation impractical.

#### Investments

Investment income includes interest, dividends, and other income related to the Society's investment portfolio.

#### Charitable activities

##### Grant income

Grant income from government and government-funded agencies relating to the Society's charitable activities is recognised as income when the entitlement to the income has been met, and the Society is legally entitled to the income. Grant income is recognised as income in the year to which it relates.

##### Charitable activities reimbursements

Charitable activities reimbursements relate to the provision of nursing services by the Society to other charities and healthcare organisations. The reimbursements are recognised as income when receivable.

#### Other income

Includes income that is not directly attributable to the Society's charitable activities. Other income is recognised when an entitlement to receipt has been met.

#### EXPENDITURE

Expenditure is analysed between charitable activities, fundraising activities and trading activities. The costs of each activity are separately disclosed and analysed according to their major components.

Expenditure is recognised when a legal or constructive obligation exists as a result of a past event, a transfer of economic benefits is required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be reliably measured.

Support costs, which cannot be attributed directly to one activity, are allocated to activities on a headcount basis.

Governance costs, which are included within support costs, consist of direct expenditure and overhead costs incurred in relation to the strategic, as opposed to day-to-day management of the charity, and in relation to compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements. Costs related to audit and organisational risk management are also included in this category.

Redundancy and termination payments are recognised when there is a demonstrable commitment that cannot be realistically withdrawn.

#### Charitable Activities

Costs of charitable activities include costs of cancer awareness and prevention programmes and publications, services and support to improve the lives of cancer patients and survivors, collaborative research programmes and advocacy work, together with related support costs. All costs of charitable activities are recognised on an accruals basis.

Research and services grant costs are recognised in full in the year in which the commitment is made where there is an expectation that the full amount committed will be fully expended. When this is not certain, the costs are recognised over the term of the contract. Research and services grants are paid over the term of the grant agreement, and the outstanding balances at year-end are held under creditors on the Balance Sheet and split between current and long-term liabilities.

Expenditure in the form of grants to local partners is recognised on an accrual basis.

#### Fundraising activities

Fundraising activities comprise expenditure incurred on fundraising, including the costs of advertising, producing publications, printing and mailing fundraising material, staff costs and an appropriate allocation of support costs. All fundraising activities costs are recognised on an accruals basis.

#### Trading activities

Trading activities comprise expenditure incurred in relation to the Society's network of 21 charity shops. All trading activities costs are recognised on an accruals basis.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

#### LEASES

Leases where substantially all the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are classified as operating leases. Payments made under operating leases are charged to the income statement on an accruals basis.

#### FUND ACCOUNTING

The Society maintains the following funds.

#### Restricted funds

Represent income that can only be used for a particular charitable purpose. Such restrictions are imposed by the donor or by the nature of the fundraising appeal.

#### Unrestricted funds

##### *Unrestricted funds – general*

Represent income that can be used by the Society without restrictions. These funds are available to spend at the discretion of the Society in furtherance of its charitable objectives.

##### *Unrestricted funds – designated*

These are unrestricted funds set aside at the discretion of the Directors for specific purposes. Any transfers to and from designated funds are approved by the Directors.

#### TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Tangible assets are recognised when a resource is controlled by the Society as a result of a past event or transaction, it is probable that the expected future economic benefits associated with the asset will flow to the Society, and the historical or fair value can be reliably measured.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation, and the carrying values are reviewed annually for impairment. Depreciation is provided for on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a straightline basis over its expected useful life, as follows:

Freehold premises:	2.0% per annum
Fixtures and fittings:	10.0% per annum
Motor vehicles:	25.0% per annum
Furniture and equipment:	20.0% per annum
Computer equipment/software:	33.3% per annum

Residual value represents the estimated amount which would currently be obtained from disposal of an asset, after deducting estimated costs of disposal, if the asset were already of the age and in the condition expected at the end of its useful life.

#### INVESTMENTS

A listed investment is a financial instrument that is traded on an exchange. Listed investments are included on the Balance Sheet at fair value, at their closing bid price, or mid-price, or last traded price.

An unlisted investment is a financial instrument that is not traded on an exchange. Unlisted investments are included on the Balance Sheet at their fair value. For unlisted funds this is based on the Society's share of the net asset value of the investments using the latest available performance data.

Investments are classified as current assets on the Balance Sheet as they can be converted to cash within three months.

Cash which is held by the Society's investment advisors, and managed by them in accordance with the Society's mandate, is classified as a current asset on the Balance Sheet under investments.

Realised gains and losses on disposals in the year and unrealised gains and losses on investments at the Balance Sheet date are included in the Statement of Financial Activities for the relevant underlying funds.

All investment income is treated as unrestricted.

#### STOCK

Goods purchased for resale are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell, which is equivalent to the net realisable value. Cost is defined as invoice price.

Unsold donated items are not included in closing stock since their cost is nil and their value is difficult to ascertain until sold.

#### ASSETS HELD FOR SALE

Gifted properties awaiting sale are valued at their fair value, which is their expected sale price less costs of sale and are valued by an independent valuer who holds a relevant professional qualification and has relevant experience of both the class and location of the asset.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

#### CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, and deposits with banks requiring less than three months' notice of withdrawal.

#### FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Society becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Financial liabilities are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into.

Financial instruments are recognised and measured in accordance with Section 11 of FRS 102.

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the Balance Sheet when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the Society intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

#### Trade and Other Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered.

Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

#### Trade and Other Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the Society has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be reliably measured or estimated. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due and at their present value where the time value of money is deemed significant.

#### RETIREMENT BENEFITS

The Irish Cancer Society operates a defined contribution ("DC") pension scheme. Contributions payable to this scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate. Amounts not yet remitted at the year-end are included in accruals on the Balance Sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the Society in independently administered funds.

#### TAXATION

The Society has been granted an exemption under Sections 207 and 208 of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997.

### 2. Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the Society's accounting policies, which are described in Note 1, the Directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

The Directors do not consider there are any critical judgements or sources of estimation uncertainty in the application of the accounting policies in Note 1.



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 3. Income

a) Donations and legacies	2023	2023	2023	2022
	Unrestricted €'000	Restricted €'000	Total €'000	Total €'000
Daffodil Day	5,615	159	5,774	4,700
Other national campaigns & donations	4,715	1,698	6,413	5,460
<b>Total national campaigns &amp; donations</b>	<b>10,330</b>	<b>1,857</b>	<b>12,187</b>	10,160
Individual giving	3,393	229	3,622	3,209
Philanthropy & corporate partnerships	2,069	925	2,994	3,986
<b>Total Donations</b>	<b>15,792</b>	<b>3,011</b>	<b>18,803</b>	17,355
Legacies	2,029	234	2,263	2,454
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,821</b>	<b>3,245</b>	<b>21,066</b>	19,809

Other national campaigns and donations income comprises income from community, social media, and Society led national campaigns, and general donations.

Individual giving income includes regular giving income and special appeal donations.

b) Trading activities	2023	2023	2023	2022
	Unrestricted €'000	Restricted €'000	Total €'000	Total €'000
Shop income	4,752	-	4,752	4,142
Other trading activities	13	-	13	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,765</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,765</b>	4,155
c) Investments	2023	2023	2023	2022
	Unrestricted €'000	Restricted €'000	Total €'000	Total €'000
Investment income	124	-	124	122
Deposit interest	2	-	2	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>126</b>	122

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 3. Income (continued)

d) Income from charitable activities	2023	2023	2023	2022
	Unrestricted €'000	Restricted €'000	Total €'000	Total €'000
Dept. of Health - HSE - Travel2Care - NCCP - annual funding	-	250	250	350
Dept. of Health - HSE - Night Nursing - National Palliative Care Programme - annual funding	-	1,250	1,250	350
Dept. of Health - HSE - Night Nursing - National Palliative Care Programme - winter funding	-	-	-	550
Dept. of Health - HSE - Night Nursing - National Palliative Care Programme - once-off funding	-	-	-	175
HSE - once-off funding	38	-	38	-
<b>Government grants relating to Charitable Activities</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>1,538</b>	<b>1,425</b>
Night nursing reimbursements	1,097	-	1,097	1,004
Other	16	1	17	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,151</b>	<b>1,501</b>	<b>2,652</b>	2,447

Night nursing reimbursements relate to the provision of night nursing palliative care services by the Society to various hospices and medical centres and to the Irish Hospice Foundation.

Department of Health HSE Grant income	Travel2Care	Night Nursing
	€'000	€'000
Restricted income carried forward	300	-
Current year income	250	1,250
Carried forward income offset against expenditure	(297)	-
Current year income offset against expenditure	-	(1,250)
<b>Restricted income to be carried forward</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>-</b>
Current year income received in current year	-	1,250
Current year income receivable at 31 December 2023	250	-

e) Other income	2023	2023	2023	2022
	Unrestricted €'000	Restricted €'000	Total €'000	Total €'000
VAT Compensation Scheme	73	-	73	86
<b>Total</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>73</b>	86

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 4. Analysis of Expenditure on Charitable Activities

The table below analyses direct, operating and support costs. Direct costs are the delivery costs of an activity including direct salaries. Operating costs are other direct costs related to a particular charitable activity goal. Support costs are analysed in Note 6.

	2023 Heathy Living	2023 Catching Cancer early	2023 Treating Cancer	2023 Living Well	2023 End of Life Care	2023 Total
	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
<b>Services and Advocacy</b>						
Public and patient awareness and education campaigns	383	383	224	279	110	1,379
Cancer support centre funding*	-	-	479	480	-	959
Transport service	-	-	1,079	-	-	1,079
Travel2Care (NCCP)	-	-	-	297	-	297
Financial support	-	-	-	560	-	560
Patient education programme	-	-	120	-	-	120
Survivorship service	-	-	-	626	-	626
CAYA	-	23	471	523	35	1,052
Night nursing	-	-	-	-	4,165	4,165
Daffodil centres*	37	83	569	442	30	1,161
Support line*	15	34	234	182	12	477
Programme management	39	39	39	39	39	195
Advocacy	59	165	110	123	41	498
Operating costs	47	63	234	224	171	739
Total direct and operating costs	580	790	3,559	3,775	4,603	13,307
Support costs	163	221	819	785	599	2,587
<b>Total Services and Advocacy</b>	<b>743</b>	<b>1,011</b>	<b>4,378</b>	<b>4,560</b>	<b>5,202</b>	<b>15,894</b>
<b>Research</b>						
Translational	-	3	274	-	-	277
Survivorship	-	36	-	378	-	414
Trials	-	-	1,018	-	-	1,018
Other strategic	71	2,204	216	95	-	2,586
Operating costs	8	243	170	13	-	434
Total direct and operating costs	79	2,486	1,678	486	-	4,729
Support costs	4	135	93	7	-	239
<b>Total Research</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>2,621</b>	<b>1,771</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,968</b>
<b>Total Charitable Activities</b>	<b>826</b>	<b>3,632</b>	<b>6,149</b>	<b>5,053</b>	<b>5,202</b>	<b>20,862</b>

\* These activities are included under the strategic priority "Treating Cancer" in the Strategic Review section, for ease of discussion. The relevant costs are allocated across a number of strategic priorities in the table above.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

	2023 Unrestricted	2023 Restricted	2023 Total	2022 Total
	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
<b>Services and Advocacy</b>				
Public and patient awareness and education campaigns	1,229	150	1,379	1,460
Cancer support centre funding*	808	151	959	1,002
Transport service	852	227	1,079	787
Travel2Care (NCCP)	-	297	297	382
Financial support	345	215	560	619
Patient education programme	120	-	120	202
Survivorship service	626	-	626	396
CAYA	458	594	1,052	398
Night nursing	1,654	2,511	4,165	3,726
Daffodil centres*	924	237	1,161	1,053
Support line*	391	86	477	448
Programme management	195	-	195	190
Advocacy	498	-	498	415
Operating costs	739	-	739	535
Total direct and operating costs	8,839	4,468	13,307	11,613
Support costs	2,587	-	2,587	2,217
<b>Total Services and Advocacy</b>	<b>11,426</b>	<b>4,468</b>	<b>15,894</b>	<b>13,830</b>
<b>Research</b>				
Translational	117	160	277	812
Survivorship	24	390	414	1,213
Trials	1,018	-	1,018	1,080
Other strategic	2,217	369	2,586	576
Operating costs	434	-	434	532
Total direct and operating costs	3,810	919	4,729	4,213
Support costs	239	-	239	215
<b>Total Research</b>	<b>4,049</b>	<b>919</b>	<b>4,968</b>	<b>4,428</b>
<b>Total Charitable Activities</b>	<b>15,475</b>	<b>5,387</b>	<b>20,862</b>	<b>18,258</b>



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 5. Fundraising Activities

Costs comprise the following:	2023 Unrestricted €'000	2023 Restricted €'000	2023 Total €'000	2022 Total €'000
Daffodil Day	1,149	-	1,149	967
Other national campaigns and donations	640	-	640	430
<b>Total national campaigns and donations</b>	<b>1,789</b>		<b>1,789</b>	1,397
Individual giving	1,555	-	1,555	949
Philanthropy and corporate partnerships	63	-	63	50
<b>Total donations</b>	<b>3,407</b>		<b>3,407</b>	2,396
Legacies	10	-	10	10
<b>Donations and Legacies costs</b>	<b>3,417</b>		<b>3,417</b>	2,406
Operating costs	2,170	-	2,170	2,110
<b>Total direct costs</b>	<b>5,587</b>		<b>5,587</b>	4,516
Investment management costs	59	-	59	63
Support costs (Note 6)	1,154	-	1,154	1,144
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,800</b>		<b>6,800</b>	5,723

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 6. Support Costs

Support costs are the costs of personnel and associated technology, finance, human resources and other central functions. Also included are the governance costs comprising the external annual audit and other legal and regulatory compliance.

Support costs are allocated across the Society's activities to fairly represent the cost of delivering those activities. The costs have been allocated on a headcount basis and are apportioned as follows:

- 65% (2022: 62%) to Services and Advocacy
- 29% (2022: 32%) to Fundraising
- 6% (2022: 6%) to Research

	2023 Services and Advocacy €'000	2023 Research €'000	2023 Fundraising €'000	2023 Total €'000	2022 Total €'000
Information Technology	964	89	430	1,483	1,385
Finance	552	52	246	850	696
Human Resources	438	40	195	673	554
Other	633	58	283	974	941
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,587</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>1,154</b>	<b>3,980</b>	3,576

Other costs include facilities, utilities and CEO office costs to fund support networks to cancer survivors, providing patient transport through our Volunteer Driver Service, peer-to-peer educational programmes, funding counselling for survivors (remote and through our partner cancer support centres) and our annual conferences.

Included in the support costs are the following governance costs:

	2023 €'000	2022 €'000
Legal and professional fees	56	27
Audit fees	35	35
<b>Total</b>	<b>91</b>	62

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 7. Research Grants

Expenditure on the following grants was charged in 2023:

Recipient	Project Description	€'000
Beaumont/RCSI	Lung cancer research programme	1,712
Cancer Trials Ireland	Strategic funding for 2023	1,000
Trinity College / St James's	Nursing and early onset programme	494
Prof William Gallagher	AICRI seed funding	225
Ms Rianna Magee	Translational PhD Scholarship	160
Ms Jane Gaffey	Survivorship PhD Scholarship	160
Ms Catherine O'Brien	Cancer nurse research award (total award €160k; co-funded by NCCP)	140
Prof Adrian Bracken	Worldwide cancer research collaboration	111
Dr Noel Donlon	Clinician research development fellowship	100
Dr Rosie O'Shea	Allied health professional award	75
Dr Martin McMahon	Improved supports for underserved communities award (total award €100k; balance included under Advocacy costs)	50
Prof Aoife Lowery	Women's health initiative	16
Various	Various research projects and grants, including support of IARC conference and student grants.	138
Various	Prior years research grants unused / cancelled and returned	(86)
Operating Costs	Management of tenders, review and oversight	434
<b>Total direct costs</b>		<b>4,729</b>
Support and central costs (Note 6)		239
<b>Total</b>		<b>4,968</b>

The summary above includes research contracts entered into and recognised in 2023. Additionally, the Society has entered into a number of multi-annual research commitments; a portion of these have not yet been recognised in the Society's income and expenditure account (see Note 16).

Grant recipients typically receive payments over the period of the grant which is determined by the conditions of the underlying agreement. During the year 188 researchers worked on research projects funded by the Society (2022: 139).

The process for approving and monitoring research grants is overseen by the Research Advisory Committee. Typically, the Society issues a grant call for a particular subject area and sets the selection criteria. It then appoints an independent panel of experts and patient representatives to rate the submissions against these criteria and make recommendations for funding. However, larger scale strategic partnerships, including ones that include a research component, are initiated and evaluated through the Society's major projects process instead. The research value of the proposal is considered as part of this evaluation, alongside other considerations. Grant recipients are required to send progress reports to the Society at set milestones, and the payment of instalments is dependent on the receipt of satisfactory progress reports. The results of research projects funded by the Society are typically published in reputable research or medical journals and the Society's contribution is noted therein.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 8. Analysis of Charitable Funds

#### a) Analysis of Movement in Designated Unrestricted Funds

The designated fund comprises amounts allocated by the Directors from general unrestricted income.

The €8.8m fund represents the level of multi-annual research commitments that have yet to be recognised in the Society's income and expenditure account.

	Opening Balance as at 01/01/2023 €'000	Income/ Expenditure 2023 €'000	Transfers 2023 €'000	Closing Balance as at 31/12/2023 €'000
Research	1,000	-	7,800	8,800

#### b) Analysis of Movement in Restricted Funds

Restricted funds are funds received where the donor has specified how the funds are to be used.

	Opening Balance as at 01/01/2023 €'000	Income 2023 €'000	Expenditure 2023 €'000	Transfers 2023 €'000	Closing Balance as at 31/12/2023 €'000
Breast cancer	-	1,004	(1,004)	-	-
Prostate cancer	-	54	(54)	-	-
Travel2Care grants (State)	300	250	(297)	-	253
Research	-	904	(904)	-	-
Nursing*	-	2,193	(2,193)	-	-
Paediatric cancer	-	215	(215)	-	-
Survivorship	-	111	(111)	-	-
Reduce the risk	-	15	(15)	-	-
Children's fund	594	-	(594)	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>894</b>	<b>4,746</b>	<b>(5,387)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>253</b>

**Breast Cancer:** to fund information, advice, research and support services for women and men affected by breast cancer.

**Prostate Cancer:** to fund information, advice, research and support services for men affected by prostate cancer.

**Travel2Care:** to fund financial assistance for patients who travel to hospital appointments.

**Research:** to fund vital cancer research programmes to deliver new hope and supports for patients, enabling new therapies, and building an advanced cancer research infrastructure which will enhance the country's cancer care capabilities into the future.

**Nursing:** to fund support to patients who need end-of-life care through a home nursing service and to fund advice and guidance through our Cancer Support Line and Daffodil Centres.

**Paediatric cancer:** to fund research and support services (including financial support) for children affected by cancer.

**Survivorship:** to fund support networks to cancer survivors, providing patient transport through our Transport Service, peer-to-peer educational programmes, funding counselling for survivors (remote and through our partner cancer support centres) and our annual conferences.

**Reduce the Risk:** to fund programmes aimed at raising awareness and sharing information on how to avoid cancer.

**Children's fund:** to fund research and support services for children and young adults affected by cancer.

\* This income includes €1,250,000 of HSE grant funding for the Society's night nursing service.



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 8. Analysis of Charitable Funds (continued)

#### c) Analysis of Movement in Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted funds are funds received where the donor has not specified how the funds are to be used.

	Opening Balance as at 01/01/2023 €'000	Income 2023 €'000	Expenditure 2023 €'000	Transfers 2023 €'000	Gains 2023 €'000	Closing Balance as at 31/12/2023 €'000
General fund	29,963	23,936	(25,566)	(7,800)	632	21,165

#### d) Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Restricted Funds €'000	Designated Unrestricted Funds €'000	General Unrestricted Funds €'000	Total 2023 €'000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	8,300	8,300
Current assets	253	8,800	22,545	31,598
Current and long-term liabilities	-	-	(9,680)	(9,680)
<b>Total</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>8,800</b>	<b>21,165</b>	<b>30,218</b>

In respect of prior year:

	Restricted Funds €'000	Designated Unrestricted Funds €'000	General Unrestricted Funds €'000	Total 2022 €'000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	8,567	8,567
Current assets	894	1,000	29,641	31,535
Current and long-term liabilities	-	-	(8,245)	(8,245)
<b>Total</b>	<b>894</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>29,963</b>	<b>31,857</b>

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 9. Net Income for the Financial Year

	2023 €'000	2022 €'000
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation	426	461
Auditor's remuneration:		
- Audit of financial statements	35	35
- Other assurance services	5	5
- Tax advisory services	-	-
- Other non-audit services	-	-
Directors' remuneration	-	-
Profit on sale of fixed assets	-	7
Operating lease charge	744	696

The Directors all serve in a voluntary capacity and do not receive any remuneration.

### 10. Taxation

No charge to corporation taxation arises as the Society has been granted exemption under Sections 207 and 208 of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997.

### 11. Employees and Remuneration

The Society employs staff to deliver on its strategy, raise income and provide infrastructure and support. Staff costs are allocated to the following activities: charitable activities, fundraising, charity shops and support.

The average number of persons (on a full-time equivalent basis) employed by the Society during the financial year is set out below:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Charitable activities	76	70
Charitable activities – night nursing	44	43
Fundraising	32	32
Charity shops	44	44
Support	37	35
<b>Total</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>224</b>

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 11. Employees and Remuneration (continued)

#### Night Nursing:

The Society employs night nurses to provide free end-of-life care in patients' homes. In 2023 206 (2022: 211) night nurses were employed for at least one night. The average number of night nurses in 2023 was 118 (2022: 112); this equates to 44 (2022: 43) nurses on a full-time equivalent basis.

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2023 €'000	2022 €'000
Salaries	12,742	11,642
Social welfare costs	1,317	1,202
DC pension scheme employer contributions (Note 19)	623	573
Permanent health, life assurance and DC pension scheme costs	149	168
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,831</b>	<b>13,585</b>

In 2023 there were redundancy costs of €54,623 in relation to one individual (2022: €94,184).

Employee remuneration (excluding pension, redundancy and end-of-contract holiday pay) of €60,000 and over:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
€60,000 - €70,000	19	16
€70,001 - €80,000	3	2
€80,001 - €90,000	9	6
€90,001 - €100,000	1	3
€100,001 - €110,000	1	-
€110,001 - €120,000	-	-
€120,001 - €130,000	-	-
€130,001 - €140,000	-	-
€140,001 - €150,000	-	1
> €150,001	1	-

Key management personnel is defined as the CEO and the members of the executive leadership team. The total emoluments (including benefits, pension and redundancy) paid to key management personnel in 2023 was €705,378 (2022: €854,138).

In 2023 the CEO was paid a salary of €140,044 (2022: €137,020) and a travel allowance of €10,000 (2022: €10,000). The Society contributed 20% (2022: 20%) of the CEO's salary to the defined contribution pension scheme.

#### Director expenses:

Directors receive no remuneration for their services. Out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with their duties may be claimed. In 2023 the Society made payments of €Nil (2022: €Nil) in relation to out-of-pocket expenses.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 12. Tangible Assets

	Freehold Premises €'000	Computer Fixtures & Fittings €'000	Motor Vehicles €'000	Furniture & Equipment €'000	Equipment & Software €'000	Total €'000
<b>Cost:</b>						
At 01/01/2023	13,283	272	36	386	1,315	15,292
Additions	-	44	-	22	93	159
Disposals	-	(3)	-	(27)	(13)	(43)
<b>At 31/12/2023</b>	<b>13,283</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>1,395</b>	<b>15,408</b>
<b>Depreciation:</b>						
At 01/01/2023	4,992	193	9	319	1,212	6,725
Charge for financial year	265	17	9	38	97	426
Disposals	-	(3)	-	(27)	(13)	(43)
<b>At 31/12/2023</b>	<b>5,257</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>1,296</b>	<b>7,108</b>
<b>Net book amounts:</b>						
<b>At 31/12/2023</b>	<b>8,026</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>8,300</b>

Net book amounts:

At 31/12/2022	8,291	79	27	67	103	8,567
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Included in freehold premises is a property that is used for trading activities; a section of this property that is currently surplus to operational requirements, is rented to a third party on a short-term commercial basis. The rental income from this property in 2023 was €13,000 (2022: €13,000) and is included under other trading activities in Note 3. The other 20 shops are held on a leasehold basis.



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 13. Current Asset Investments

	2023 €'000	2022 €'000
At 1 January	6,664	8,142
Gain/(loss) on investments	632	(1,537)
Investment income	124	122
Management fees	(59)	(63)
<b>At 31 December</b>	<b>7,361</b>	<b>6,664</b>

The funds are held in the following classes of investments:

	2023 €'000	2022 €'000
Cash and cash equivalents	321	380
Listed investments	6,903	6,132
Other investments	137	152
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,361</b>	<b>6,664</b>

	2023 €	2022 €
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Investment in Subsidiary (Note 22):

At 1 January	1	1
Impairment loss	-	-
<b>At 31 December</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

The Irish Cancer Society has a 100% investment in a subsidiary undertaking called Irish Cancer Society Research Limited.

The directors believe the carrying value of the investments is supported by its underlying net assets. The net assets of Irish Cancer Society Research Limited were €3 at 31 December 2023 (2022: €3).

Investment funds are included in the accounts at fair value and any fluctuations are accounted for in the Statement of Financial Activities.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 14. Debtors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	2023 €'000	2022 €'000
Trade and other debtors	344	700
Accrued income	591	766
221+ support group balance due	14	-
Prepayments	611	469
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,560</b>	<b>1,935</b>

All trade debtors are due within the Society's normal terms, which is typically 30 days.

The 221+ support group balance due relates to funds due from 221+CCG Cervical Cancer Association Company Limited.

### 15. Creditors

Amounts falling due within one year:

	2023 €'000	2022 €'000
Trade and other creditors	792	713
Accruals	729	646
221+ support group funds held in trust	-	14
Payroll taxes	356	330
Instalments due on research and services grants payable	4,558	4,253
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,435</b>	<b>5,956</b>

The repayment terms of trade creditors vary between on demand and 90 days.

Amounts falling due after more than one year:

	2023 €'000	2022 €'000
Instalments due under research and services grants payable	3,245	2,289

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 16. Grant Commitments And Provisions

	31/12/2023 €'000	31/12/2022 €'000
Balance at 1 January	6,542	5,797
New grants awarded	4,893	3,767
Grants refunded	(73)	(52)
Grants disbursed	(3,559)	(2,970)
<b>Balance at 31 December</b>	<b>7,803</b>	<b>6,542</b>
Classified as:		
Due within 1 year	4,558	4,253
Due after 1 year	3,245	2,289
<b>Balance at 31 December</b>	<b>7,803</b>	<b>6,542</b>

The Society has entered into a number of multi-annual research grant commitments with Cancer Trials Ireland, Trinity St James's Cancer Institute, and BRCSI, amounting to a total investment of €12.4m. These grants will be accounted for in annual instalments between 2023 and 2028, in line with the respective agreements, timelines, and relevant performance-related conditions, as established. €8.8m was allocated to the designated fund at the end of 2023 in relation to these commitments. This balance represents the level of multi-annual research grant commitments that have yet to be recognised in the Society's income and expenditure account, in accordance with the Society's accounting policy. (see Note 8).

### 17. Financial Instruments

The carrying values of the Society's financial assets and liabilities are summarised by category below:

	2023 €'000	2022 €'000
<b>Financial Assets</b>		
Measured at fair value through profit or loss Current asset listed investments (see Note 13)	7,361	6,664
Measured at undiscounted amount receivable Trade and other debtors (see Note 14)	344	700
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,705</b>	<b>7,364</b>

#### Financial Liabilities

Measured at undiscounted amount payable Trade and other payables (see Note 15)	8,595	7,269
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The Society's income, expense, gains and losses in respect of financial instruments are summarised below:

	2023 €'000	2022 €'000
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#### Fair value gains and (losses)

On financial assets measured at fair value through statement of financial activity	632	(1,537)
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## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 18. Cash Flow Statement

#### a) Reconciliation of changes in net income to cash generated by operations

	2023 €'000	2022 €'000
<b>Net income for the financial year</b>	<b>(1,639)</b>	<b>(1,998)</b>
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation	426	461
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	7
Increase in creditors	1,435	1,142
Decrease in stock	3	63
Increase / (decrease) in debtors	375	(588)
Deposit interest	(2)	-
<b>Cash generated/(used) by operations</b>	<b>598</b>	<b>(913)</b>

#### b) Net debt

The Society had no borrowings or obligations under finance leases as at 31 December 2023 (2022: none).

### 19. Retirement benefit schemes

#### Defined Contribution Scheme

The Society operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the organisation in an independently administered fund. The organisation made contributions of €622,998 (2022: €572,716) during the financial year. The amount outstanding at the financial year end was €115,157 (2022: €98,585). The outstanding balances are held on the Balance Sheet under creditors.

### 20. Constitution

The liability of the members of the Society to contribute towards its assets is limited to an amount not to exceed the sum of €1.27 in each case.

### 21. Operating Leases

#### The future minimum lease payments under operating leases for each of the following periods:

At 31 December the Society had total commitments under operating leases in relation to charity shops premises, storage and office space:

	2023 €'000	2022 €'000
Within one year	530	563
Between one and five years	1,007	1,104
More than five years	47	118
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,584</b>	<b>1,785</b>



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

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### 22. Financial Assets

The Society's subsidiary, Irish Cancer Society Research Limited, was incorporated in Ireland in 1991 and the address of its registered office is 43-45 Northumberland Road, Dublin 4. Irish Cancer Society Research Limited was engaged in the business of sale of Christmas cards. The Company ceased trading at the end of 2013. As Irish Cancer Society Research Limited did not trade during 2023 and has insignificant net assets, consolidated financial statements have not been prepared.

### 23. Related Parties

There were no related party transactions in 2023.

### 24. Comparatives

Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified for consistency with the current year presentation.

### 25. Post Balance Sheet Events

There have been no events subsequent to the year-end that require any adjustment to, or additional disclosure in, the 2023 financial statements.

### 26. Political Donations

The Society made no political donations during 2023.

### 27. Approval Of Financial Statements

These financial statements were approved by the Board on 26th June, 2024.

## Reference and administrative details

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### REFERENCE

Within this document the Irish Cancer Society is referred to as the Society and the Company.

### COMPANY NUMBER

20868

### CHARITY REGULATOR NUMBER

20009502

### REVENUE CHARITY NUMBER

5863

### REGISTERED OFFICE

43/45 Northumberland Road, Dublin 4

### COMPANY DIRECTORS

Dr. Sinead Brennan  
Prof. Liam Grogan (resigned 6th December 2023)  
Brid Horan  
Dr. Cormac Kilty (resigned 5th May 2023)  
Irene O'Gorman  
Ger Penny  
Alex White  
Allan Kearns  
Dr. Mary Canavan  
Maria Fleming  
Prof. Janice Walshe (appointed 10th January 2024)

### CHAIR

Brid Horan

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Averil Power

### COMPANY SECRETARY

Emma Browne

### BANKERS

AIB Bank, 9 Terenure Road, Rathgar, Dublin 6

### SOLICITORS

Hayes Solicitors, Lavery House, Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2

### INVESTMENT ADVISERS

Brewin Dolphin Wealth Management Limited, 3 Richview Office Park, Clonskeagh, Dublin 14

### AUDITORS

Deloitte Ireland LLP, Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm,  
Deloitte and Touche House, Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2

## Notes

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