



**Supporting
people
through
cancer**



**Irish Cancer
Society**
Annual Report
2021

Kevin

Volunteer Driver

Read his story
on page

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Sophie

Cancer Researcher

Read her story
on page

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Sharon

Patient Advocate

Read her story
on page

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Paul

Patient Advocate

Read his story
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Fran

Survivor Support
Volunteer

Read his story
on page

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1,100

health checks at the Your Health Matters roadshow

€7.2m

raised Daffodil Day 2021



See more about Our Support services on page 27

Each drive to treatment, each counselling session, each phone call, conversation or night of care supports someone going through the very worst experience of their life.

Vision, Mission and Values

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.

It doesn't matter who you are or where 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.

Emma Browne with daughters Mia and Sophie Dumbleton taking part in Marathon in a Month fundraiser



Brid & Averil



Message from our Chair and CEO

We started 2021 in full “level 5” lockdown, facing the worst and fastest spike in COVID-19 that we had seen. It became a year of waiting. Waiting for our vaccinations. Waiting for the worst to be over. Waiting for our lives to begin again.

For people affected by cancer, waiting is life-altering. Waiting to find out if you have cancer. Waiting for treatment. Waiting for reconstruction surgeries, or other so-called “non-essential” care.

Through all this, we are proud that the Irish Cancer Society was still there: providing support to patients, survivors and families; advocating for your needs and care; and providing hope and advancement through research.

‘Still here’ became our theme for Daffodil Day 2021. We shared the stories of patients of all ages and backgrounds through our video and campaign. Through video snippets of their lives, people shared their heartbreak and resilience, their hopes and fears, their laughter and tears. Cancer was still here, but so too were they.

Daffodil Day 2021 showed that Ireland was still there for them too. Through the immense generosity of the public and supporters across the country, Daffodil Day 2021 was the most successful ever, raising an incredible €7.2 million. What cannot be measured is what that figure represents - the hope and support of a community, a whole country saying: we’re still here for you too.

Thanks to that generosity, the Society was able to continue our essential services and supports, and to work to bring closer the day when no-one dies from cancer. We were able to be there for tens of thousands of people who needed us.

Our volunteers drove patients to 13,000 appointments. Our nurses in Daffodil Centres and on our Freephone Support Line gave advice, support and a listening ear in response to 17,500 enquiries. We funded 129 researchers, who are finding ways to improve outcomes and quality of life for people with cancer. Our night nurses supported patients at end-of-life with 7,400 nights of care. We were also able to expand our services: doubling our investment in cancer trials, and providing nearly 5,500 more sessions of free counselling than in 2020.

Each drive to treatment, each counselling session, each phone call, conversation or night of care supports someone going through the very worst experience of their life. Sharon, through her story on page 30, captures the toll that cancer takes, and what it means to know you’re not alone as you go through that. Because of the generosity of this whole community, we were able to be there for Sharon, and thousands more, when they most needed us.

2021 was another year when that need was great. COVID-19 and the HSE (Health Service Executive) cyber-attack brought a second year of huge disruption to cancer patients and cancer services. We continued to advocate for investment in cancer care, to champion patient needs, and to seek to mitigate the worst effects. In spite of this, the impact of the past two years jeopardises our collective ability to achieve the aims of the National Cancer Strategy. Our own vision and ambition in the Irish Cancer Society remain unchanged. But we need to re-plan how we achieve that. As an Executive team and as a Board, this is a priority for 2022. We are looking again at our strategy, and mapping our path forward.



See more about
our support services
on page 26

In 2021, we also focused on supporting families affected by a childhood cancer diagnosis.

An area of particular concern is that cancers are being detected later. Catching cancer early can be life-saving and life-changing. For Paul, who tells his story on page 25, catching his cancer early has meant he can enjoy precious time with his grand-daughter. Through the year we heard too many stories where this wasn't the case. People were hesitant about going to their GP with health concerns, they had difficulty accessing healthcare, or didn't want to take up time of healthcare workers who were busy and under pressure. This meant that cancer was being detected later, or sometimes not at all.

Throughout 2021, we ran a series of cancer awareness campaigns highlighting signs and symptoms. "Your Health Matters" was our message, and we encouraged people to attend their GP with any worries. In autumn 2021, we brought that message and awareness to the heart of communities, to people in shopping centres across the country. Our "Your Health Matters" Roadshow reached almost 19,000 people, spreading awareness of cancer signs and symptoms. Almost 1,100 people received a free nurse-led health check to help them reduce their cancer risk and talk about their worries.

In 2021, we also focused on supporting families affected by a childhood cancer diagnosis. The words 'your child has cancer' are among the most devastating that a parent can hear. Cancer is distressing at any age, but when a child or teenager is diagnosed it turns a whole family's world upside down. On top of the emotional devastation, there are huge financial impacts too which we highlighted in 2021. Families need support so that they can focus on their child and their needs. They shouldn't have to worry about how they're going to pay their rent and other expenses.

In response, we immediately increased our Children's Fund grant to €3,000 and campaigned for Government supports through a special children's cancer pre-budget submission. As we look ahead, supporting families affected by a childhood cancer diagnosis continues to be a priority. We will expand our own services and supports, and champion change through our advocacy.

We know too that the need for support for people of all ages is growing, and we will expand our services to meet this. We will invest in emotional, practical and financial supports to reduce the burden of cancer. These include free counselling, financial advice and peer support. We will also bring our supports into the community so that we can be there for people where they need us.

The challenge of catching cancer early remains in 2022. We will continue our work in this area, expanding the Roadshow and doubling the number of people reached.

We will respond, in line with our mission and values, to the needs of all people with cancer, as well as the new challenges and needs that come our way. We write this in 2022, after the devastating invasion of their country saw Ukrainian cancer patients forced to leave their homes and come to Ireland. We stepped up to support those with cancer who were forced to flee, by providing information and advice, translation services, financial support and crisis coordination. We are here for everyone affected by cancer.

We can do none of this without the support and work of patients, survivors, supporters, volunteers, researchers, healthcare professionals and staff all around the country. We are a community working together and we are truly grateful to all who have supported our work over the last year.

We are still here, and always will be.

Brid Horan
Chair

Averil Power
CEO

Highlights 2021



Irish Cancer Society Night Nurse Hilary Neville Gough with CEO Averil Power and host Ryan Tubridy on the Late Late Show Daffodil Day special



Singer Shane Filan performs on the Late Late Show

Daffodil Day 2021

Although COVID-19 prevented us from taking to the streets for Daffodil Day 2021, that didn't stop our supporters and fundraisers from being there for people affected by cancer. Throughout the month of March, supporters and fundraisers turned Ireland a virtual yellow, raising funds in creative and inventive ways. On Daffodil Day, volunteers, supporters and staff joined Shane Filan and Jedward to take over the Late Late Show, raising over €3 million. Overall, Daffodil Day 2021 was our most successful ever. Thanks to our amazing supporters and the incredible generosity of the Irish public, over €7 million was raised to provide and fund vital services, supports and research for people affected by cancer. Funds raised on Daffodil Day particularly supported the Society to be able to provide almost 5,500 more sessions of free counselling in 2021 than 2020, and funded an additional €1.5 million investment in cancer trials and cancer research.

The campaign was supported by the Irish Cancer Society's powerful 'Still Here' television ad, featuring the stories of cancer patients and survivors all around the country and the help they received from the Society through the most difficult of times.

The Real Cost of Children's Cancer

On top of the devastation of a diagnosis, cancer has a crushing financial impact for families of children with cancer. Our Real Cost of Childhood and Adolescent Cancer report, published in November, highlighted this. 100 families shared their experience and contributed to this research, which found a childhood cancer diagnosis causes an average hit of €15,300 to annual family incomes on top of other crippling expenses.



Oisín Ward and his mother Ann with Irish Cancer Society CEO Averil Power, launching the Real Cost of Childhood & Adolescent Cancer report

Your Health Matters Roadshow

We took to shopping centres across the country in 2021, to raise awareness of signs and symptoms of cancer, and help catch cancer early. Over 18,500 people visited our Roadshow stands over 21 days in 10 locations. Our volunteers were on hand with advice and information on cancer prevention and early detection, and our nurses conducted 1,100 health checks.



Marty Morrissey kicks off the Society's Your Health Matters campaign

Decoding Cancer

Decoding Cancer – the podcast that aims to answer the public's big cancer questions – returned for a second series in 2021. Over six episodes, Director of Research, Dr Robert O'Connor and guests discussed everything from the outsized contribution of Irish people in global cancer research, to the intriguing role that our canine companions play in vital skin cancer research.



Living Well With and Beyond Cancer

In June our annual national conference, Living Well With and Beyond Cancer, took place online for the second year running. 550 attendees gathered live to listen to a range of speakers share their experiences, stories and expert knowledge on living well after a cancer diagnosis. The virtual presentations, interactive workshops and Q&A sessions were shared on cancer.ie afterwards, as a valuable resource for anyone living with and beyond cancer.

Highlights 2021

Care For Your Pair

In October, for breast cancer awareness month, the Irish Cancer Society launched our Care For Your Pair campaign. The digital-led campaign encouraged people to be breast aware, to check themselves regularly and to chat to two friends about breast health. The campaign was also supported by Centra, with the messaging shared in stores and on their social media.



Reversing the impact of COVID-19

Irish Cancer Society CEO, Averil Power, and Director of Advocacy and External Affairs, Rachel Morrogh, presented to the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Health in June 2021. They highlighted the experiences of cancer patients during the pandemic and spoke about actions to take to help reverse the impact of COVID-19 on cancer survival rates.

Night nursing care

Despite the pandemic, our night nurses continued to provide in home nursing care for patients at end-of-life, allowing them to spend their final days at home, with the people they love. Over 200 night nurses worked throughout 2021, and thanks to their dedication more than 2,200 cancer patients and families were supported with 7,400 nights of care.

Irish Cancer Society Research Awards

The Irish Cancer Society Research Awards took place virtually on 24 February 2021. The awards recognise the achievements of Irish Cancer Society funded cancer researchers, who are finding new and innovative ways to improve the outcomes for people with cancer and are building Ireland's reputation as an international cancer research hub. Congratulations to Romina Silva, Dr Arman Rahman and Dr Despina Bazou who were recognised with awards on the night, and to all of the incredible members of the Irish Cancer Society research community.

2021 in numbers*

13,000

Drives to and from cancer treatment provided

↑ **10% from 2020**

2,200

Cancer patients supported by our night nursing service

↑ **1% from 2020**

129

Cancer researchers funded

↓ **4% from 2020**

8,500

Freephone Support Line calls and emails answered

↑ **6% from 2020**

1,900

Participants in patient education

↑ **31% from 2020**

1.6 m

Visits to cancer.ie ⁽¹⁾

8,900

Support conversations with our Daffodil Centre nurses ⁽²⁾

= **2020**

830

New patients participating in cancer trials with Cancer Trials Ireland ⁽³⁾

↓ **9% from 2020**

1,100

Health checks conducted at our early detection Roadshow

New service

14,400

Counselling sessions provided ⁽⁴⁾

↑ **62% from 2020**

€3.9 m

Investment in new cancer research

↑ **64% from 2020**

2,500

Active volunteers ⁽⁵⁾

↑ **13% from 2020**

* All numbers greater than 200 are rounded.

(1) The introduction of cookie consents in October 2020 changed how web activity is tracked and so a direct comparison with 2020 is not possible.

(2) Does not include patient education sessions delivered by Daffodil Centre nurses, which are separately recorded.

(3) Does not include the thousands of patients in treatment or follow-up on trials which commenced in earlier years.

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

(5) Due to COVID-19, this does not include Daffodil Day street sale volunteers in 2020 or 2021.

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.



See more about our cancer research on page 19

Cancer survivor Louise Collins and her family from Dunshaughlin, Co Meath support the Society's record-breaking Daffodil Day campaign

Strategic Review



Introduction

2021 was the first full year of implementation of the Society's 2020-2025 strategy.

Our strategy sets out 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 will 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.

2021 strategic context

COVID-19 continued to dominate our strategic context in 2021. It impacted all of our work, and our strategy delivery, in many different ways:

- » COVID-19, along with the HSE cyber attack in May 2021, placed unprecedented pressures on health services. This meant that the capacity for healthcare professionals to engage on services or cancer research was limited. We countered this by prioritising areas of greatest need, and by investing further to support cancer research and trials.
- » Isolation and worry due to COVID-19, along with healthcare disruption, has meant that the needs of

people affected by cancer have never been greater, nor has demand for our services and supports. We directed our efforts toward meeting these needs: advocating for cancer patients; providing additional practical and financial advice and support; and expanding our emotional and social supports, such as counselling.

- » Politically, COVID-19 dominated the agenda, meaning that issues that affect cancer patients risked being ignored. We adapted our advocacy efforts to respond. We advocated successfully on COVID-19 related issues which were affecting cancer patients, while maintaining attention on the need for long term investment in cancer services.
- » Organisationally, COVID-19 disrupted how and where our staff and volunteers could work. This meant we had to work harder to continue our existing services, such as volunteer driving and night nursing. Thanks to the dedication of our staff and volunteers, we continued our services throughout the pandemic, all while keeping our staff, volunteers and patients safe.

The challenges which led to the development of our strategy in 2020 also remain, and we cannot lose focus on these issues. These include:

- » the need to respond to higher rates of cancer in Ireland;
- » the growing group of cancer survivors, whose needs are not being met within the Irish health system;
- » the unacceptable gaps in supports for children and teenagers with cancer, and their families;
- » and the inequalities which exist in the detection, diagnosis and treatment of cancer.

We remain fully committed to our strategy and vision, and to meeting these challenges. We are, however, acutely aware that our strategic landscape now is fundamentally different to when the strategy was developed. The last two years have had a major negative impact on cancer services in Ireland. Despite best efforts to mitigate, the pandemic has reversed much of the progress that had been made in cancer care. Cancer is being detected and diagnosed later, treatment has been disrupted, and already stretched healthcare systems have been stretched even further. We cannot quantify yet the impact on survival but there is a risk that the day where no-one dies from cancer may be further away rather than nearer. In that light, we must fundamentally assess our strategic progress and our forecasts. In 2022, we will conduct an early mid-term review of our strategy paying particular attention to the risks to our vision.



Cancer survivor Helen Flynn and her sons Oisín and Tom Óg took part in the Society's Still Here campaign

Review of 2021 strategic performance

In our annual report 2020, we set 38 objectives for 2021. Of these, we achieved 22 (58%), 14 (37%) were achieved in part or remain in progress, and just 2 (5%) were not achieved.

Progress made against each of our 2021 objectives is detailed in the following sections of this report, under each of the strategic priorities.

Objectives achieved: Where we have achieved our 2021 objectives, our work is still not over. Into 2022 and beyond, we will continue to build on this work until we can reach the day that 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.

Objectives achieved in part/ in progress: Where objectives were achieved in part rather than in full, or remain in progress, this was typically due to COVID-19 impacts across the areas mentioned above. Despite this, we have made significant progress across the 2021 objectives, and all “in progress” objectives are on track for completion in 2022.

Objectives not achieved: Of the two objectives which we did not achieve, one was the roll-out of pre-treatment workshops for additional treatment types. Due to COVID-19 and the HSE cyber attack, capacity of partner healthcare professionals was limited. We focused our efforts instead in enabling take-up of the existing chemotherapy workshops (providing this online and over the phone as well as face-to-face), and in developing a post-treatment survivorship programme. New pre-treatment workshops will instead be developed in 2022. The patient experience survey was also not completed in 2021, as we redirected our efforts to research and gather data on the COVID-19 impacts on cancer treatment and patients.

In addition to these objectives set at the beginning of 2021, we also responded to emerging needs of people affected by cancer, implementing new strategic initiatives which were not originally planned. These included:

- » the Your Health Matters early detection roadshow, which provided cancer awareness and prevention information to over 18,500 people;
- » increasing the level of financial support provided to families experiencing childhood cancer and increasing the number of recipients of this grant by more than 50%;
- » doubling our investment in Cancer Trials Ireland from €500,000 (targeted for 2021) to €1,000,000.

We also continued to maintain or grow our core services, supports and activities, through a challenging COVID-19 environment, including:

- » providing night nursing care to over 2,200 patients and providing 8% more nights of care in 2021 than the years before the pandemic;
- » providing free transport to chemotherapy to almost 1,400 patients and increasing by 10% (from 2020) the number of drives to cancer appointments delivered by volunteers for these patients;
- » Supporting almost 11,000 people through our Daffodil Centres (+4% from 2020) through patient education and support conversations with our Daffodil Centre nurses;
- » providing counselling support to 2,800 people impacted by cancer in 2021 (+54% on 2020) through 14,400 counselling support sessions (+62% on 2020);
- » providing information, advice and support to over 8,500 callers and email contacts through our Support Line, an increase of 6% from 2020;
- » investing €3.9 million in new funding for cancer research, up 62% from 2020;
- » supporting almost 130 researchers;
- » advocating for the immediate needs of cancer patients in light of COVID-19.

**Priority
One**

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.

76%

HPV vaccination in schools recommenced at the end of the 2020/21 academic year, with a 76% uptake for dose 1.

(figures as at 1 March 2022)

7 in 10

An independent survey we commissioned in 2021 found that over 7 in 10 people support a ban on e-cigarette advertising.

The impact we've had in 2021

In April, we launched a report on the unmet needs in cancer genetics services in Ireland. The Society commissioned this research, which was conducted by Prof Josephine Hegarty in University College Cork. The report highlighted the waiting times for genetic testing, the barriers to accessing cancer genetics services, and gaps in existing services. Prof Hegarty's findings are already informing health policy, such as the work of the National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) on a health needs assessment for people with a BRCA mutation.

The HPV schools vaccination programme provides free vaccination against HPV to children in their first year of secondary school. Due to COVID-19, the schools based vaccination programme was paused in early 2021. In March, we joined Laura Brennan's family in their call to resume the programme. The programme recommenced toward the end of the 2020/2021 academic year, with a 76% uptake for dose 1 and 65% uptake for dose 2 (figures as at 1 March 2022).

We also partnered with NUI Maynooth and Napier University Edinburgh on an Irish Research Council funded programme to develop a workshop for secondary school students to communicate the importance of the HPV vaccine through storytelling and filmmaking. Twenty transition year students participated in the event, making short films promoting the HPV vaccine to their peers.

We have continually advocated for implementation of the Public Health (Alcohol) Act. Regulation can contribute to supporting people to reduce excessive alcohol consumption, and reduce their cancer risk. Thanks to our efforts and those of other health charities, Cabinet signed off on minimum unit pricing for alcohol products in 2021, and the measure came into effect on 1 January 2022.

We also supported the annual campaign run by the Mouth Head and Neck Cancer Awareness Ireland Group. In partnership with Alcohol Action, the HSE alcohol programme and the NCCP, we hosted a webinar on alcohol and cancer, which was attended live by over 250 people.

We worked throughout the year to support the implementation of the National Skin Cancer Prevention Action plan, with a particular focus this year on outdoor workers. In conjunction with the NCCP, we developed practical skin cancer prevention resources and tools for employers. We also worked with large employers, such as An Post, the OPW and local authorities, and groups such as the Construction Industry Federation and the Irish Farmers' Association, to raise awareness and provide practical advice on how to support their workers.

Smoking is the single biggest cause of cancer, causing one third of all cancers in Ireland. Following our pre-budget submission, we were pleased to see an increase in excise duty on cigarettes of 50 cent per pack, and a pro-rata increase on rolling tobacco. We are concerned that e-cigarettes may undo the decades of progress on reducing cancer risk from smoking. An independent survey we commissioned in 2021 found that over 7 in 10 people support a ban on e-cigarette advertising. This research helped inform our submissions to politicians about e-cigarette regulations. In November, we presented to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Health about the Public Health (Tobacco and Nicotine Inhaling Products) Bill, and advocated for a ban on e-cigarette advertising and flavourings.

We also funded research to support our healthy living. Research on smoking rates amongst cancer patients, which we funded in 2020 and 2021, concluded in 2021. The findings by the UCD and St Vincent's University Hospital researchers can be used to help identify ways to empower people with cancer to quit smoking and live well.

Achieving our objectives

At the beginning of 2021, we set out the following objectives for the year. We have made good progress against these objectives through our direct work, but these objectives have been affected by legislative progress and other demands on the political system.

2021		
Objective	Results	Progress
Continue to campaign for the full implementation of the Public Health (Alcohol) Act including measures such as minimum unit pricing and labelling to highlight the links between alcohol and certain cancers.	Provisions to enact Minimum Unit Pricing (MUP) were commenced and MUP has come into effect from 1 Jan 2022.	In progress. We will continue to push for full implementation of the Act, including cancer labelling.
Push Government to go further on proposed e-cigarettes legislation, to tackle the inappropriate targeting of young people by e-cigarette advertising and flavours.	Pre-legislation scrutiny started in 2021. We have attended the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Health and engaged with its members, the Department of Health and the HSE.	In progress. Working with other health charities, we will continue to build support as the Bill works through the next stages in 2022.
Contribute to the production of the first ever National Stop Smoking Clinical Guidelines by the HSE, to allow every person in Ireland access to supports to quit smoking.	We worked with the Tobacco Free Ireland partners group to support the development and publication of these guidelines. The guidelines were published in January 2022.	Achieved.
Press for a blanket catch-up for the HPV vaccination programme in schools, after COVID-19 disrupted roll-out, to ensure children are protected from HPV-related cancers.	We joined Laura Brennan's family in their call to resume the vaccination programme, resulting in the vaccination programme restarting in the 2020/21 academic year. We tracked uptake and raised awareness to support this.	In progress. We will engage with the National Immunisation Advisory Committee (NIAC) as it reviews the clinical effectiveness of a catch-up programme.
Publish Irish Cancer Society funded research by Prof Josephine Hegarty on patient and healthcare professional experiences of cancer genetic services.	Report published in April.	Achieved.
Invest in a new pilot project to address the needs of patients with a genetic or high familial risk of cancer. This project will research patient needs, identify gaps in existing services, and pilot a clinical psychology service for patients with genetic or high familial risk of cancer.	This project commenced in April through St Vincent's University Hospital and UCD. The HSE cyber attack and COVID-19 pressures meant that a six-month pause was granted from August 2021.	In progress. The project will restart in January 2022.



Our objectives for 2022

In 2022, in addition to completing the "in progress" objectives, we will:

- » Work with the Climate and Health Alliance to highlight the public health harms of climate change, and advocate for Government action.
- » Work with the HPV Vaccination Alliance to push for accelerated progress on the elimination of HPV-caused cancers.
- » Support the implementation of the National Skin Cancer Prevention Action plan.
- » Develop a longer term cancer prevention, awareness and early detection strategy for the Society.

Smoking is the single biggest cause of cancer, causing one third of all cancers in Ireland. Following our pre-budget submission, we were pleased to see an increase in excise duty on cigarettes of 50 cent per pack, and a pro-rata increase on rolling tobacco.

**Through my research
around cervical cancer
I want to promote
a healthier society.
We need to focus on
preventing cancer
from occurring, and
stopping people from
being unnecessarily
affected by it.**



Sophie

I am a PhD student based in UCD, and I was honoured to receive an Irish Cancer Society Scholarship in 2021 to support my investigations into why some groups of women are less likely to attend for cervical cancer screening, and to promote knowledge of screening.

Despite the availability of an improved new method of cervical screening which tests for HPV, which is a leading cause of the disease, some women/people with a cervix remain reluctant to attend for screening.

The World Health Organisation has put forward a strategy for elimination of cervical cancers through screening, vaccination and treatment. Ireland is working towards this, but in order for it to be a success the approach needs to be an equitable one.

After recent screening controversies I recognised this as something that really needs to be addressed so that women don't have negative perceptions of a screening programme that is highly effective and beneficial to them, particularly with the new more effective process.

Screening attendance rates are quite high in Ireland, but there are some groups of women that aren't being reached, and the challenge for me initially is to identify these groups.

The ultimate goal of the project is to design supports that can help encourage more women to attend for potentially lifesaving screening, and help make a difference in this way.

I've found now that I'm sharing with my friends and family that I'm doing this project, I've been talking to some older women about it and they're responding to say that they haven't gone to get checked in years.

Even my own peers don't know that they should register for screening. There is a fear around discomfort or embarrassment that comes through in a lot of conversations, and the issue of respecting anonymity within the healthcare setting can be really important for women.

Even just saying that I'm doing this project might prompt other women I know to think 'oh, that is something I need to do' and ask how they can go about getting checked: talking about it makes it easier for people to go and do it.

Sophie Mulcahy Symmons
Researcher



€3.9m

Investment in new cancer research

↑ **62% from 2020**

129

Cancer researchers funded

↓ **4% from 2020**



See more about catching cancer early on page 20

**Priority
Two**

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.

21

21 events in 10 locations around the country took place as part of our “Your Health Matters” roadshow in 2021.

18,500

Over 18,500 people visited the Roadshow and **1,085 free health checks** were conducted.

The impact we’ve had in 2021

In early 2021 we became seriously concerned that because of the many challenges posed by the pandemic, we were facing more people being diagnosed with cancer at a much later stage. HSE data in February 2021 showed that the number of suspected cancer cases referred through the Healthlink e-referral system dropped by more than 50% after the first wave of the pandemic. Research commissioned by the Society also found that one in four people did not attend a GP or hospital appointment when they needed to during the first lockdown.

We needed to act. In February 2021, we launched our Your Health Matters campaign encouraging people to get any health concerns checked out. We worked with GPs and healthcare professionals throughout the year to ensure that even as COVID-19 continued, the message was clear that GPs were open to non-COVID-19 concerns, and were safe to attend.

Throughout the year, we raised awareness of signs and symptoms of cancer and encouraged people to attend their GP. We highlighted our online health checkers, and saw high levels of engagement, such as:

- » The Bowel Cancer Awareness campaign which ran throughout April, with the aim of increasing awareness and encouraging GP attendance, and encouraging take up of BowelScreen. More than 2,000 people visited our online bowel health checker in April.
- » Our “Care for your Pair” breast cancer awareness campaign encouraged people to be breast aware, to check themselves regularly and to chat to two friends about breast health. Our new breast health checker, social media campaign, in-store promotion by corporate partners, and media coverage helped us to raise awareness across the country.

- » In November, we raised awareness of lung cancer: reminding people that a cough could be something other than COVID-19, increasing understanding of signs and symptoms through our lung health checker and encouraging people to talk to their GP about lung health.

The impact of our cancer awareness messages is strongest when we work in partnership. Throughout the year, we also highlighted Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and in partnership with other children’s cancer charities; World Ovarian Cancer Day, joining with 27 other organisations as part of the #TEALights campaign; and joined in Men’s Health Week in June with our social media posts reaching more than 250,000 people.

As summer ended, we were still concerned that more needed to be done to tackle the delayed diagnosis crisis. With COVID-19 restrictions lifting slightly, we were able to safely develop and implement an in-person early detection programme.

Our “Your Health Matters Roadshow” launched in September to raise awareness of cancer signs and symptoms, encourage people to make positive lifestyle changes to reduce their cancer risk, and help people to access GPs for health concerns. Volunteers and nurses attended at shopping centres throughout the country to provide cancer information and advice, free health checks, and to refer people for free GP visits as needed. 21 Roadshow events took place in 10 locations around the country in 2021. Over 18,500 people visited the Roadshow and 1,085 free health checks were conducted.

Independent evaluation conducted by researchers from UCD found that after attending a health check at the Roadshow participants had a better understanding of cancer signs and symptoms than before attending, and almost three quarters of people said they would likely make changes to their lifestyle to reduce cancer risk.

Throughout the year we also focused on increasing take-up of screening and improving cancer screening services. We lobbied successfully to include lung-cancer screening in the European Beating Cancer Plan (the “BECA” report). We also collaborated with the National Screening Service to assess the behaviour and attitudes of the public to bowel and breast screening, in order to identify measures to improve screening uptake.

In 2021, we funded research on cancer screening and early detection, such as:

- » Sophie Mulcahy Symmons’ PhD research in UCD to improve cervical screening take up among underrepresented communities;

- » Dr Alice Le Bonniec’s 2020 Social, Nursing, and Allied Health Sciences Post-Doctoral Fellowship award for her project to increase bowel screening uptake; and
- » Dr Nick Clarke’s research project also looking at interventions to improve bowel cancer screening uptake.

The Society also collaborated with UCD and Breakthrough Cancer Research on the IMPROVER project, to involve people affected by prostate cancer on a research project focused on improved detection and diagnosis and management of this cancer.

Achieving our objectives

At the beginning of 2021, we set out the below objectives for the year. Recognising that early detection has been a major crisis area due to COVID-19 we took immediate action and have met, and exceeded, these objectives for 2021. Our work to catch cancer early is not complete however, and this area will continue to be a major priority well into 2022.

2021		
Objective	Results	Progress
Work with GPs and healthcare providers to ensure people with signs of cancer do not delay in seeking medical advice.	Our Your Health Matters roadshow and campaigns, supported people with signs of cancer to get medical advice.	Achieved.
Work with the National Cancer Screening Service (NCSS) to understand why people do not avail of screening, increase confidence in screening services, and increase uptake of screening, in particular implementing the outcomes of our funded research into Bowel Screen uptake.	Completed a study with the NCSS to assess the behaviour and attitudes of the public to bowel and breast screening uptake, and will continue to engage to implement measures to address its findings.	In progress. We will continue to work to increase screening uptake in 2022.
Increase understanding of the signs and symptoms of cancer, through public awareness campaigns.	Increased awareness throughout the year with integrated media campaigns, including tools such as our “checkers”.	Achieved.



Our objectives for 2022

In 2022, in addition to completing the “in progress” objectives, we will:

- » Expand the Your Health Matters early detection roadshow and double the number of people we provide advice, information and support to.
- » Implement early detection initiatives for particularly at-risk and marginalised groups.
- » Continue to track and monitor the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on health attendance, cancer detection and diagnostics, and take action to mitigate these effects.
- » Develop cancer awareness information and tools for employers, universities and schools.
- » Raise awareness of cancer signs and symptoms, and drive a 20% increase in visits to relevant information on cancer.ie during key cancer awareness months and days.
- » Lobby for the content of the Irish Cancer Society submissions to the National Screening Advisory Committee to become Government policy.

Throughout the year, we also focused on increasing take-up of screening and improving cancer screening services.

The Your Health Matters Roadshow visited 10 locations nationwide in 2021

I was a lonely vulnerable man, and I lifted the phone to the Irish Cancer Society. A nurse answered the phone and just said 'Paul, you are not alone'.



Paul

I've had six cancers in my life since 2006 – twice in the colon, twice in the liver, once in the prostate and one skin cancer.

It was coming up to my granddaughter Fiadh's first birthday in April 2020 when I noticed that I was going to the toilet more often. I knew from experience that swift action was needed, so I went for a CT scan and asked for a colonoscopy which found a tumour in my colon that needed surgery.

To add to the complication I found a skin cancer on my eyelid in February 2021, however quick action again meant that it could be dealt with through surgery.

The mental anguish you go through when you have cancer is tough. You go into hospital to fix the cancer, but they don't fix you.

People I've never met just opened their hearts to me and helped me along this journey. They put me through a course with psychotherapists, they put me in touch with psychologists. It's the reason why I'm alive, it's why I've survived sixteen years of cancer.

I am delighted to have gotten back precious time to spend with my granddaughter, and as far as I'm concerned being aware of those changes in my body and acting quickly was key for me. I've had so much amazing support over the years and my overriding feeling is of relief and joy that I am still alive and well, and looking forward to a bright future.

Paul McLoone
Cancer Survivor



1,100

Health checks conducted at our early detection Roadshow

New service

14,400

Counseling sessions provided

↑ **62% from 2020**



See more about our counselling supports on page 27

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've had in 2021

COVID-19 continued to impact cancer patients and their treatment. Throughout 2021, we advocated successfully on immediate issues facing cancer patients due to COVID-19. We advocated for the prioritisation of cancer patients in the COVID-19 vaccine roll-out, helping ensure the creation of a "cohort 4" in March 2021, which saw people with certain cancers prioritised for the vaccine. We also successfully advocated for cancer patients travelling abroad for essential medical reasons to be excluded from mandatory hotel quarantine.

We have also funded research to better understand the COVID-19 impact, and to enable us to continue to act. An RCSI-based consortium led by Prof Kathleen Bennett and Dr Maeve Mullooly will undertake a two-year programme to inform our understanding of the direct impact of COVID-19 on cancer outcomes.

In June, we appeared before the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Health to discuss the impact of COVID-19 on cancer services and patients, highlighting the devastating disruption that COVID-19 has had on every aspect of the cancer continuum, and the long-term consequences. Our pre-budget submission highlighted the need for increased investment in cancer services and wider supports. Cancer care cannot continue to compete for capacity, equipment, beds, resources and healthcare professionals, against unscheduled care. We advocated for a new approach, as the problems now are far greater than pre-COVID-19 levels of performance could solve. Budget 2022 secured €20 million in funding for the National Cancer Strategy, along with an additional €10 million to address waiting lists.

The needs of children, adolescents and young adults (CAYA) living with cancer, are different from adults and need focused attention. This year, for the first time, we developed a pre-budget submission specifically for CAYA. We also developed a new children's cancer hub on our website, with additional information and resources for families seeking childhood cancer information and support. Our Children's Cancer Nurse continued to provide specialist paediatric cancer information and advice to patients and families through our Support Line.

Our Childhood Cancer Fertility Project continues to provide fertility care and advice to young people with cancer. Some, but not all, patients with cancer may develop fertility problems in later life, and it is reassuring to know that this service gives these young people the opportunity to preserve their fertility for the future.

Our Support Line nurses supported over 8,500 people with advice, information and a listening ear throughout 2021 (+6% on 2020). As COVID-19 restrictions lifted, many of our Daffodil Centres were able to reopen to provide support to patients attending for cancer care in hospitals. By December, 12 of our 13 Daffodil Centres were back open (one of the 12 was relocated). Our Daffodil Centre nurses held more than 8,900 support conversations in 2021 (equal to 2020).

As many cancer patients were isolating throughout 2021, we continued to make sure that cancer patients could access the information, support and resources they needed to stay well while staying home. We introduced a new video calling service to allow people to virtually speak face-to-face with a cancer nurse, even when unable to attend at a Daffodil Centre. Our pre-chemotherapy patient education workshops continued in 2021, with workshops delivered online, by phone, and in-person in Daffodil Centres. Almost 1,800 people took part in chemotherapy patient education in 2021 (+32% from 2020).

We also kept our "Staying well while staying home" hub up-to-date throughout 2021 with information, resources and supports. We expanded our general cancer information, partnering with Cancer Research UK (CRUK) to customise their information for Irish patients and families, to provide additional, trustworthy cancer information especially for rarer cancer types. As part of the Women's Health Initiative, which we fund, we supported the launch of the online patient platform thisisgo.ie which provides personalised information and support for women and their families affected by gynaecological cancer.

The emotional impact of cancer can often be underestimated. For us, emotional and psychological supports must form part of the overall treatment of a person with cancer. To support this we provide free counselling for anyone affected by cancer, at any stage of their cancer experience. In 2021, over 2,800 people availed of almost 14,400 free counselling sessions, provided by the Society through our network of remote counsellors and funded sessions by counsellors in community cancer support centres. This is an increase of nearly a thousand more people benefiting from the service compared with 2020.

Our Volunteer Driving Service continued in 2021, thanks to the dedication of our volunteers. As the vaccination programme rolled out, we welcomed back many of our volunteers who had to take a step back due to COVID-19 risks. In 2021, we supported 1,400 people through the Volunteer Driving Service, providing free transport to almost 13,000 appointments (+10% on 2020). Thanks to our incredible volunteers and team, we were able to meet over 99.5% of requests for drives from patients registered with the service. Other practical and financial supports, including financial grants, grew in 2021, and are explained further under our "Living well" priority.

Clinical trials participation provides an opportunity for patients to access potentially life-saving and life-changing treatments, and can bring the day when no-one dies from cancer ever closer. Our investment in Cancer Trials Ireland (CTI) in 2021 contributed to 829 new patients participating in CTI clinical trials/research studies overall in 2021, across 29 new trials or investigations, as well as the continuing participation of thousands of patients. The number of participants in 2021 is below that of 2020, as 2021 saw a full year impact of the pandemic alongside the HSE cyber attack. Ireland's overall clinical trial participation also remains well below international levels.

To help reverse this, and give Irish patients the best chance to live well with and beyond cancer, we doubled our funding of cancer trials from €500,000 in 2020 to €1,000,000 in 2021. Advances in surgical interventions, radiation therapy, and chemotherapy treatment for cancer are just some of the areas our funding will help advance in 2022, along with increased patient recruitment.

Creating a strong research culture within the Irish cancer health system benefits patients by keeping our most talented clinicians in Ireland, bringing breakthroughs closer to the patient, and enabling evidence-led advances in clinical care. To support this, we work to develop the research environment by funding leading clinicians, nurses and health and social care professionals across the country and providing them with research support and training. In 2021 we funded almost 130 researchers in total, including providing new funding to 35 new research projects. Almost half of those new researchers are currently investigating ways to improve and advance cancer treatment, with others looking at areas to support our other strategic priorities.

All research takes time to produce results that can translate to cancer, but researchers funded by the Society in 2020 and 2019 have already made research breakthroughs that could change lives. Some examples include:

- » 2020 Translational Fellow Awardee, Dr Luke Jones published insights on immature acute leukaemia which could change how we diagnose and manage this type of cancer.
- » 2020 Cancers With Unmet Needs Translational Research Award recipient Prof Adrian Bracken published a study identifying a particular gene mutation responsible for an incurable childhood brain cancer called Diffuse Midline Glioma. While further studies are needed, identifying this mutation may mean that drugs can be developed in the future to treat this incurable cancer.

Achieving our objectives

In 2021, we achieved all but one of our objectives under this priority. We will build on these achievements into 2022 to create a future with world-class cancer treatment, and support, for everyone.

2021		
Objective	Results	Progress
Continue to track and monitor the impact of COVID-19 on cancer services, so that we can take immediate action to mitigate the worst of its effects.	We tracked COVID-19 impact throughout the year, including through quarterly surveys of the public. We also funded research to systematically analyse data and identify the impact of COVID-19 on cancer outcomes.	Achieved.
Secure continued increases in Government funding for cancer services to improve cancer survival and the availability of services to improve the quality of that survival.	Budget 2022 provided €20 million in new funding for the National Cancer Strategy, and €10 million in additional funding to address waiting lists.	Achieved.
Expand our pre-treatment workshops for patients to provide information, advice and support to every patient undergoing treatment for cancer.	While pre-chemotherapy workshops continued, the pandemic, the HSE cyber attack and pressures on clinician partners, meant that further workshops could not be rolled out in 2021. Instead we focused on our post-treatment survivorship education (see "Living Well" priority).	Not achieved. Will be delivered in 2022.
Increase the digital delivery of our services including virtual patient workshops, increased online content, and video Support Line calls, so we can reach more people around the country.	Online pre-chemotherapy workshops, video Support Line calls, and additional online content were rolled out in 2021.	Achieved.
Expand and grow our counselling services through virtual counselling and partnerships with cancer centres.	Virtual and face-to-face counselling took place in 2021, with 52% more people benefiting from this service.	Achieved.

2021

Objective	Results	Progress
Invest at least €500,000 into cancer trials in Ireland to provide patients access to ground-breaking treatment.	Invested €1,000,000 in cancer trials through Cancer Trials Ireland.	Achieved.
Invest a further €600,000 into translational research to ensure laboratory breakthroughs reach Irish patients.	Invested €700,000 in translational research in 2021. This included: research to target the underlying disease biology in DIPG, an aggressive childhood brain cancer; a project looking to better combat treatment resistance in refractory multiple myeloma; research investigating the role of weight loss on altering the immune system in endometrial cancer.	Achieved.
Fund research into niche, underserved or specialist areas of cancer, so that our research can benefit all people affected by cancer.	Invested €400,000 in this type of research for areas such as combating cancer misinformation; examining the experiences of adolescents and young adults affected by cancer from underrepresented and marginalised communities; and examining the impact of COVID-19 on management and diagnosis of cancer.	Achieved.

Our objectives for 2022

In 2022, in addition to completing the “in progress” objectives above, we will:

- » Expand our pre-treatment workshops for patients to provide information, advice and support to every patient undergoing treatment for cancer.
- » Increase by 10% the number of patients we support through our Volunteer Driving Service.
- » Conduct a pilot to serve patients travelling to radiotherapy appointments through our Volunteer Driver Service.
- » Open the Volunteer Driving Service to children and teenagers travelling to CHI Crumlin.
- » Increase the number of people supported by our SupportLine by 10%.
- » Continue to restore our Daffodil Centres to pre-pandemic attendance, on-board new volunteers and increase the number of people supported through our Daffodil Centres by 20%.
- » Provide over 13,000 sessions of counselling through our remote counsellors and through partnership with cancer support centres.
- » Pilot new community based supports for people affected by cancer.
- » Increase the number of patients on cancer trials funded by the Society through our investment in Cancer Trials Ireland.
- » Invest €700,000 in new translational research.
- » Offer a tailored information pack to every newly diagnosed person who contacts the Society, providing relevant information and resources to support their diagnosis.
- » Provide additional advice, information and support to families affected by childhood cancer.
- » Advocate for continued increases in funding for cancer services and delivery of infrastructure and change to support implementation of the National Cancer Strategy.

Sharon

I had only just recently reached the age of eligibility when screening services were temporarily paused with the onset of Covid-19 in 2020.

I hadn't yet received an invite for a mammogram, but it didn't cause me any great concern as I went about my normal life - or as close to normal as possible in the circumstances!

One day my doctor recommended that I get one, which I was in the fortunate position to be able to source privately.

It picked up two tumours in my breast which required a full mastectomy and reconstruction. I'm left to think that had I been called for screening it would have been caught earlier, and maybe they would have caught it with the first tumour which might only have required a smaller surgery.

I eventually ended up having complications with my hormone therapy which caused it to be suspended. I was on my knees at the time, as the emotional strain of the whole experience began to take a toll on me.

I was given an Irish Cancer Society booklet and found out about the Daffodil Centre in Beaumont. The nurse there was so busy, but her door was always open and she always found time to talk to me. She was so kind and good at a really tough time when I couldn't even see my mother or husband with hospital visitor restrictions.

She encouraged me to call the Support Line, and I spoke to the nurse for half an hour about practical things around my cancer and treatment. She suggested I talk to one of the Society's Survivor Support Volunteers, someone who had been through a similar journey to me.

I'm the big sister in my family. My father says 'there's no show like the Sharon show' - I didn't even tell anybody I had cancer for three weeks, I had to put the show on. I didn't even tell my husband.

I didn't have to put the show on when talking to my Survivor Support Volunteer, she was just fantastic. She allowed me to cry.

I thought 'that really is a peer matching service', because she was exactly the person I needed. It was like a gift, it was just amazing and I'm looking forward to helping in any way I can in future after hearing the good news that I am cancer free.

Sharon Greaves
Cancer Survivor



8,900

Support conversations
with our Daffodil
Centre nurses

= 2020

8,500

Freephone Support Line
calls and emails answered

↑ 6% from 2020



See more about
Our Survivor
Support Volunteers
in Fran's Story
on page 36

My opportunity of a prompt diagnosis may have been taken away with the pandemic, but the Irish Cancer Society was there to support me every step of the way.



Priority Four

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've had in 2021

The practical and financial impact of cancer can last long beyond a diagnosis. At the Irish Cancer Society, we want to change that. In 2021, we worked to expand the practical and financial supports available to people affected by cancer, to support people to live well with and after a diagnosis. This included partnering with Community Law and Mediation (CLM) to provide monthly free legal advice clinics to cancer patients, to help with financial, workplace and other legal challenges which can unfortunately arise.

The ongoing cost of cancer places a huge burden on patients and their families. Travel to Care, our financial assistance to support patients to get to cancer treatment, was granted to over 1,000 patients in 2021 (+23% from 2020) helping to ease the burden a little. We were also pleased to see Budget 2022 deliver a reduction in the Drugs Payment Scheme threshold from €114 per month to €100 per month. There is much left to do to reduce the cost of cancer, and our Advocacy Champions continued to highlight punitive practices such as car parking charges, in-patient charges, and the use of debt collectors by hospitals. Reducing the financial impact of cancer caused by these practices and other challenges will continue to be a priority into 2022.

In November we published our Real Cost of Childhood and Adolescent Cancer report highlighting the range of financial challenges families of children with cancer face. This informed our CAYA pre-budget submission, and Budget 2022 included an extension of the Domiciliary Care Allowance for children in hospital from 13 weeks to six months, along with a reduction in in-patient charges for children under 18 years of age.

We also improved our supports in response, increasing our Children's Fund financial assistance for families from €2,000 over three years to a €3,000 upfront payment. 2021 saw more than 270 families benefit from the assistance, up 53% from 2020.

We launched a new online benefits and entitlements hub, to provide a one-stop-shop for information on entitlements and assistance available. We also published a booklet specifically for families of CAYA patients, outlining financial supports available.

In February, we launched a report which we commissioned the ESRI to complete about returning to work after a

cancer diagnosis. One in six people surveyed said their manager was unsupportive or very unsupportive and four in ten people said that they felt their time off work was too short. We published recommendations on practical ways that employers, trade unions and Government can support people affected by cancer in the workplace, and will continue to engage with stakeholders into 2022 to advance their implementation. We also developed our own policy on Cancer and Chronic Illness to support our employees living with and beyond cancer, which can serve as an example of leading practice for employers.

Finishing cancer treatment is a major milestone, but isn't the end of a cancer experience. We know from past research that finishing treatment can feel like "falling off a cliff", as supports can be harder to access. We want to equip and empower people for life beyond active treatment. With the NCCP, and with the support of healthcare professionals across disciplines, we have developed a new two-hour survivorship workshop to support people exiting acute treatment. The Life After Cancer – Enhancing Survivorship (LACES) programme was piloted in Beaumont, Letterkenny and Galway in June. Based on positive feedback from participants, the programme was then rolled out nationally toward the end of the year, with over 80 people taking part.

"It is a vital service as it's so relaxed and very open"

"I wish I had done something like this earlier it was fantastic."

"I really took a lot from it and felt that the modules delivered were very real and beneficial"

Feedback from participants in the Life After Cancer – Enhancing Survivorship programme

We also worked with Children's Cancer and Leukaemia Group (CCLG) from the UK, to develop an Irish specific booklet for children and teenagers finishing active cancer treatment, to help support their transition.

1,000

Travel to Care, our financial assistance to support patients to get to cancer treatment, was granted to over 1,000 patients in 2021 (+23% from 2020)

270

Our Children's Fund financial assistance for families increased from €2,000 over three years to a €3,000 upfront payment. 2021 saw over 270 families benefit from the assistance, up 53% from 2020.

Coming together as a community of cancer patients and survivors is incredibly important – to share, connect and learn. For the second year in a row, our Living Well With and Beyond Cancer conference took place as a virtual event in June 2021. Almost 1,000 people registered to attend, with 550 attending live and over 1,100 more views of the recorded workshops and presentations afterwards on our website. Feedback was hugely positive, with 100% of survey respondents saying they would recommend the conference to others.

We also supported Ireland's first Children, Adolescent & Young Adult Survivors virtual conference, hosted by CanCare4Living, Childhood Cancer Foundation Ireland and CanTeen Ireland.

We continued to fund research into cancer survivorship, working with researchers across all healthcare disciplines to advance research and initiatives to support the quality of life of people living with cancer, reduce treatment side-

effects and improve outcomes. We invested €1.3 million into new survivorship research in 2021, funding 13 projects and 15 researchers such as:

- » Dr Amara Naseer in Trinity College Dublin, who will work to develop a strategy to reduce osteoradionecrosis, a serious complication from radiation treatment, in head and neck cancer patients.
- » Dr Emer Guinan, who will undertake a research project designed to make exercise more accessible to as many cancer survivors as possible, in particular those impacted by COVID-19.
- » Jennifer Fitzpatrick who will undertake research in Athlone Institute of Technology to develop diet and exercise supports to improve the quality of life for children who have undergone cancer treatment.

Achieving our objectives

Through 2021 we achieved the majority of the objectives set out at the beginning of the year focusing on practical, financial support for people living with and beyond cancer, and on providing ways for people to stay well while staying apart. We particularly highlighted the impact of childhood cancer, and will continue this into 2022.

2021		
Objective	Results	Progress
Roll out a new survivorship patient education programme, to empower all patients finishing treatment with the information and support they need to live well after cancer	Our Life and Cancer – Enhancing Survivorship (LACES) programme was rolled out nationwide.	Achieved.
Launch our research, conducted by the ESRI, into the experience of people returning to work after cancer, and engage with employers, trade unions and policy makers to improve the experience	The report was published in February and we have continued to engage with stakeholders to work to implement its recommendations.	Achieved.
Provide direct employment, finances and benefits advice to people affected by cancer	Developed a benefits and entitlements hub with information and advice; established free legal advice clinics with CLM.	In progress. We will launch a specialist financial/benefits advice service in 2022.
Further increase the information and content we provide about the resources and supports available for people living after cancer	Created an online repository of resources as part of the LACES programme, and a benefits and entitlements hub.	Achieved.

2021

Objective	Results	Progress
Conduct a national patient experience survey to more fully understand the experience of people living after cancer and use these insights to develop new services and campaign for change	Instead of this, we focused our efforts on the early detection crisis and tracking and understanding people's awareness of cancer, and fears and worries about seeking medical care.	Not achieved. Will be progressed in 2022.
Research the real cost of children's cancer and advocate for Government supports to reduce the financial burden on parents and families	Published our Real Cost of Childhood Cancer report in September. Developed a CAYA specific pre-budget submission and advocated for change, as well as implementing our own financial supports.	Achieved.
Host, in partnership with others, a conference to provide support, advice and solidarity to survivors of childhood and young adults cancers	Supported the first CAYA Cancer Survivorships conference, which was held by CanCare4Living, Childhood Cancer Foundation Ireland and CanTeen Ireland.	Achieved.
Invest €1.2 million into survivorship research, to improve the lives of people living with and after cancer	Invested €1.3 million into new survivorship research, funding 13 projects and 15 researchers	Achieved.
Launch a Men's Health Initiative, modelled on the Women's Health Initiative, to ensure access to world-class care for all survivors of cancer	Worked with over 50 stakeholders to co-design the scope for this initiative and launch the research call, with the proposal for this initiative currently in the final stages of development.	In progress. The call for the initiative launched at the end of 2021 and will commence in 2022.
Invest in a Lymphoedema Early Detection Project in Limerick to improve the long term wellbeing of people with cancer-related lymphoedema, a side effect of many cancer treatments	This project commenced in 2021 with equipment purchased and installed, and the first patients in receipt of education and early detection supports.	Achieved.

Our objectives for 2022

In 2022, in addition to completing the "in progress" objectives above, we will:

- » Further grow our financial and benefits advice services and provide individual advice to people who need it.
- » More than double participation in our Life and Cancer – Enhancing Survivorship (LACES) survivorship programme.
- » Host a hybrid (online and in-person) survivorship conference, and grow attendance by more than 30% over 2021.
- » Develop and fund a world-class survivorship research coalition to improve outcomes for people affected by cancer.
- » Invest €1.9 million into new survivorship research.
- » Advocate and campaign to reduce the financial impact of cancer for patients and families, particularly in light of the rising cost of living.
- » Publish research on the challenges cancer survivors face in accessing financial services post-treatment and support practical steps, such as the "right to be forgotten", to improve access to financial services.

After coming through cancer twice myself I know the importance of support for patients, which is why I ran a marathon to help raise funds for vital services, and even became a Survivor Support Volunteer myself.



Fran

I can appreciate as well as anyone the need for advice or even just a listening ear when going through cancer.

I remember myself questioning what the future would hold for me after being diagnosed with testicular cancer in my early 20s, and then having to do it all over again when needing treatment for thyroid cancer 12 years later.

I wasn't sure how it was possible to come through it. It was an obstacle I found hard to comprehend myself.

That's when I focused my energies on running and cycling as activities that could make a positive contribution towards my recovery. I eventually put my hobby to the best use I could imagine, when I ran the Dublin Marathon in aid of the Irish Cancer Society.

I've also taken inspiration from my own father's journey, having twice survived cancer himself.

I'm a father myself now, and I think it's rewarding to give back. They say everything happens for a reason, but it's great to share your experience because it could have worked out very differently for me, but thankfully it didn't. Throughout the years I was thinking maybe that a lot of things weren't possible but actually they were, and you want to tell others that.

Through the training with the Survivor Support Volunteering you get to learn how to speak to people and how to listen, and how to help. I learned a good bit from that. What you went through won't necessarily be exactly the same as the other person, but sharing it can still help.

Even just chatting about what you're watching at the moment or your favourite Liverpool player (James Milner in my case!), these things can be every bit as important as talking about cancer.

Fran McDermott
Survivor Support Volunteer



550

Attendees at our our
Living Well With
and Beyond Cancer
conference

€1.3m

invested into
survivorship research

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.

200 We had over 200 night nurses working throughout 2021.

7,400 We provided 7,400 nights of care to cancer patients, supporting and caring for them and their families.

The impact we've had in 2021

We continued to provide free night nursing care to cancer patients throughout 2021, supporting patients to die at home surrounded by their families and the people they love.

COVID-19 continued to place pressures on this service throughout the year. Due to the exceptionally high rates of COVID-19 in early 2021, we were forced to provide a restricted night nursing service from 1 January to 14 February. We also continued to struggle to recruit and retain night nurses, especially as many moved to support the COVID-19 vaccination programme particularly in the early part of the year.

Despite this, we had over 200 night nurses working throughout 2021. Thanks to their work and dedication we were able to support 2,200 cancer patients to die at home (equal to 2020). We provided 7,400 nights of care to cancer patients (-4% compared to 2020), supporting and caring for them and their families.

Demand for our night nursing service continues to be far above pre-pandemic levels (requests for night are up by more than 20% in 2021 compared to 2019) and it remains a challenge for our service to meet this need. We were sadly unable to fulfil 12% of requests for nights of care for cancer patients in 2021 (up from 11% in 2020).

We conducted a review of our night nursing operations in 2021, and are implementing changes to attract and retain our nurses, make our processes more efficient, and increase the capacity of our team. This work will continue into 2022 as we expect demand for night nursing services to continue at these new levels.

We continued to advocate for improvements in palliative care provision in Ireland, and welcomed the €10 million in additional funding for hospices and community palliative care announced in Budget 2022. We also made a submission to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Justice regarding the Dying with Dignity Bill, advocating for an approach which places patients at the heart of any decision making.

In 2021 we also saw results from previously funded palliative care research, such as pharmacist Dr Cathal Cadogen's study setting out new prescribing criteria for older adults with cancer who are receiving palliative care.

Achieving our objectives

At the beginning of 2021, we set out the following objectives for the year:

2021		
Objective	Results	Progress
Retain our skilled and dedicated night nursing staff, and recruit more nurses to meet increased demand.	We continue to add to our night nursing community, with 44 new nurses recruited in 2021. Over 200 nurses worked in 2021 (+15 from 2020) providing valuable and vital services. Despite this increase and the dedication of our staff, we still need more night nurses to meet the demand for our services.	In progress. We will continue to attract and recruit more night nurses in 2022.
Introduce new policies to provide for in-home care for children and young adults at end-of-life.	We supported 14 paediatric patients with 150 nights of care in 2021, compared to 11 patients with 72 nights of care in 2020. Advocated through our CAYA pre-budget submission for funding for age-appropriate community palliative services for children and young adults.	In progress. We will support even more families with in-home care for children and young adults in 2022.
Review and implement improvements to our night nursing process and procedures, so that we can deliver the service more effectively and reach more people.	We conducted a review of our night nursing operations in 2021, and are implementing changes to attract and retain our nurses, make our processes more efficient, and increase the capacity of our team.	In progress. We will continue to implement changes to support our Night Nursing Service.
Advocate for additional funding for palliative care services in Budget 2022.	Budget 2022 provided €10 million in additional funding for hospices and community palliative care.	Achieved.
Work to ensure the views of patients, carers and family members on assisted dying are considered by Government through a respectful and consultative forum.	Made a submission to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Justice regarding the Dying with Dignity Bill.	In progress. We will maintain our position on the Dying with Dignity Bill, advocating for respectful and thoughtful consultation.

Our objectives for 2022

In 2022, in addition to completing the “in progress” objectives, we will:

- » Recruit and retain our dedicated night nursing staff, aiming for 200 night nurses working during 2022.
- » Implement further changes to our night nursing processes and technology.
- » Reduce the proportion of nights which we are unable to provide a night nurse from 12% in 2021 to no more than 10%.
- » Provide at least 200 more nights of night nursing care to cancer patients.
- » Advocate for improvements in palliative care provision in Ireland.

We continued to advocate for improvements in palliative care provision in Ireland, and welcomed the €10 million in additional funding for hospices and community palliative care announced in Budget 2022.

The Irish Cancer Society headquarters lit up at Christmas in memory of all the lives lost to cancer in 2021

Kevin

You could say I began Volunteer Driving by accident when I started giving lifts to my aunt to her treatment. She was living on her own in Wexford, and afterwards it seemed a natural next step to start driving for the Irish Cancer Society.

She was about 10 miles outside the town, she wasn't on a bus route and they weren't that frequent anyway. It was a big ordeal for her to get up to Dublin for treatment, and I used to bring her when I had time on my hands.

I saw how difficult it was for her, so I said that if I could do something for others then I would, and that's how I began volunteering.

I completed nearly 80 drives in 2021 taking patients to and from appointments in places like Kilkenny, Waterford and Dublin. I enjoy doing it. For starters I'm used to driving after a career spent on the road working in life assurance.

The people who you're bringing are quite ill. While they're going through all that stress and the side effects of chemotherapy and cancer, I feel that we alleviate the pressure of transport so it's one headache they don't have to worry about.

You do get quite fond of people. You meet some really nice, genuine people and you hear great stories about amazing people and the lives they've led. I find the Volunteer Driving very worthwhile and satisfying. People are really thankful and grateful, it means so much to them that you're taking pressure and worry off them, and that includes financial worries if you're driving and parking. And people can feel that they're putting family members under pressure as well to take them, so it takes that pressure off.

Kevin Lawlor
Volunteer Driver



2,500

active volunteers

↑ **13% from 2020**

13,000

drives by Volunteer Drivers

↑ **10% from 2020**

People are really thankful and grateful, it means so much to them that you're taking pressure and worry off them.



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.

29

Our Advocacy Champions network continued to grow in 2021, with 29 Champions in place by the end of 2021, up from 26 in 2020.

2,500

Despite the pandemic, almost 2,500 volunteers gave their time to support our work in 2021.

The impact we've had in 2021

- » Despite the pandemic, 2,500 volunteers gave their time to support our work in 2021. Staff and volunteers also responded to new needs and new services. When we established the Your Health Matters Roadshow, we called on our network of staff members and volunteers for support, with 84 people answering the call.
- » In March we held the first meeting of the Oireachtas Cross Party Group on Cancer, which we established. This a dedicated political group on cancer, bringing together 13 TDs and Senators from across the political spectrum. The group is chaired by Senator Catherine Ardagh. Having the group in place means that politicians can hear directly from patients and experts about cancer issues.
- » Our Advocacy Champions network continued to grow in 2021, with 29 Champions in place by the end of 2021, up from 26 in 2020. These Advocacy Champions are located in constituencies around the country and provide a voice for people affected by cancer in Ireland.
- » The new year brought a new set of restrictions on retail, meaning that our shops started 2021 shuttered once again, impacting hugely on our retail staff. We reopened in May 2021, and were delighted to have our staff and volunteers back at the heart of communities across Ireland. We recruited over 500 new volunteers to shops across the country, to support the reopening and continued operation.
- » Staff and volunteers kept patients, customers, and each other safe by their adherence to our COVID-19 policy and protocols, and we are grateful for their work throughout the pandemic.
- » Many of our staff members continued to work remotely during 2021, due to public health restrictions. Despite the personal challenges of working from home during a pandemic, our staff continued to work with dedication and commitment to improve the lives of people affected by cancer.
- » As restrictions lessened over the year, and with the vaccine roll-out, we were delighted to be able to welcome back volunteers who had to take a step back from active volunteering due to COVID-19. Due to the pandemic, thousands of volunteers who usually volunteer for Daffodil Day were still unable to do so in 2021, but they continue to be a part of our community. We look forward to their return to the streets for Daffodil Day 2022.
- » In June we were also proud to be recognised as one of the best employers in Ireland, ranking 21st on Sunday Independent/ Statista Best Employers List 2021. Attracting and retaining a team of committed and talented staff is important to achieving our strategy, and this award recognised the importance we place on our people.
- » Our digital and online presence is even more important now than ever before, and a key part of our strategy is to enhance our digital presence to reach more people. In November, the Society won a Digital Media Award (Gold Winner in Government and Not-for-Profit category) for our Daffodil Day 2021 campaign. The awards recognise creativity and innovation across the digital media sector, and are a testament to the work of our whole team and the engagement of our supporters.
- » In December, we were also announced as the winner of the Charity Impact Award (Large Organisations). This award recognises the work of our whole community and the positive impact that we make for the lives of people affected by cancer.

Achieving our objectives

At the beginning of 2021, we set out the following objectives for the year:

2021		
Objective	Results	Progress
Roll out a new Volunteer Management policy and processes, to provide a best-in-class volunteer experience to our volunteers.	New volunteer policy published January 2021, and improvements implemented in the volunteer experience.	Achieved.
Welcome back volunteers who had to take a step back from volunteering due to COVID-19.	Many volunteer drivers and shop volunteers safely returned to volunteering in 2021.	Achieved.
Launch an Oireachtas Working Group on Cancer, to provide a forum for the voice of people affected by cancer, and cancer experts, to be heard by Oireachtas members.	Oireachtas Working Group on Cancer established and met three times in 2021.	Achieved.
Expand the Grassroots Advocacy Network to all Dáil constituencies with all advocates trained and ready to drive change for people affected by cancer, and expand our network of online Champions.	By 31 December 2021, there were 29 Advocacy Champions in place (+3 from 2020).	In progress. We will continue to expand the Network to all Dáil constituencies in 2022.
Devise, and implement, a People Strategy for the Society to develop and support our people to deliver the strategy.	People strategy developed, to be implemented in 2022 onwards.	In progress. We will implement further initiatives in 2022.
Implement changes to our internal processes to better utilise technology, increase efficiency, and improve the quality of the services we offer.	Introduced improvements such as a new volunteer driver portal, an intranet for information sharing and fundraising data management enhancements.	In progress. We will continue to improve our processes and operations and make effective use of technology in 2022.



Our objectives for 2022

In 2022, in addition to completing the “in progress” objectives, we will:

- » Implement a brand refresh for the Society, to help raise awareness of our work and increase the number of people who avail of our services and supports.
- » Continue to grow our digital and online presence, and reach more people through our digital channels.
- » Begin implementation of our people strategy, including increased training, learning and development of staff and volunteers to retain talent and improve the work that we do.
- » Recruit at least 200 new volunteers to support the growth of our services.
- » Support four meetings of the Oireachtas Working Group on Cancer throughout 2022.
- » Establish a Grassroots Councillor Network for the Society to expand our advocacy reach into local communities.

Despite the pandemic, 2,500 volunteers gave their time to support our services and fundraising in 2021 with 500 new volunteers joining our shops.

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 Volunteer Driver Service, bringing patients to and from chemotherapy appointments; and our Daffodil Centres, providing information and support.

Our community of Public and Patient Involvement (PPI) representatives support researchers across the country, ensuring that the patient experience is reflected in the research we fund. Volunteers also work across fundraising initiatives like Daffodil Day, Relay For Life and assisting in our retail shops; and in 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.

2021 was a difficult year for so many, and our staff members and volunteers were no exception. Despite this, they showed such resilience and determination to be there for people affected by cancer.

Our staff continued to work with pride and commitment, even in challenging circumstances. In our shops, Daffodil Centres, in patients' homes, and at their own kitchen tables, our staff continued to make sure that our work not only continued uninterrupted, but also expanded to meet new needs in 2021.

Our network of supporters across the country also continued to row behind virtual and online fundraising. They helped make Daffodil Day 2021 our most successful Daffodil Day ever, despite the pandemic.

To our community of staff, volunteers and supporters, thank you for all that you have done in 2021, 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.

In 2021 we particularly enhanced what we do to better serve lower income patients and families, and members of new Irish communities. This included:

- » raising awareness of the cost of cancer, and successfully lobbying for financial support, such as statutory sick pay, to help lower income families;
- » increasing our financial aid grant for families affected by childhood cancer;
- » bringing 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;
- » expanding our counselling programme to provide virtual counselling services in Arabic and Polish;
- » working with Precision Oncology Ireland to increase awareness and understanding of cancer genetics amongst Muslim communities in Ireland;
- » supporting the development of the Sheds for Life online programme, supporting the physical, mental and social wellbeing of Men's Sheds members;
- » funding research to support underserved communities in Ireland, such as Prof Suzanne Guerin's research about the experience of cancer by teenagers and young people from underrepresented and marginalised groups.

Accessibility of our information and services to people of all backgrounds and abilities is important to us. In 2021, we worked with the National Adult Literacy Association (NALA) to develop a series of videos to support health literacy. 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. Sign language interpretation is also available for callers to the Support Line.



Above: Alannah Sheehan and daughter Phoebe take part in the Society's Still Here video
Top Right: Daffodil Centre volunteer Milie Mathew
Right: Deirdre O'Raw and Deirdre Newell discuss their successful 'Deeswimber' fundraiser with Ryan Tubridy

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. In 2022, we will continue to enhance our work further: conducting research into the needs of underserved communities; working with LGBT Ireland to take part in the LGBT Champions programme; and introducing expanded interpretation services to allow callers to the Support Line and to our Daffodil Centres to access information in their first language. We will also expand our early detection initiatives to reach more people from marginalised communities.

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 this link is 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. Our electricity supply is 100% renewable, and we have invested in energy efficient fixtures and equipment. We adjusted our heating system in 2021 to use less fossil fuels. 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.

We also partner with other cancer charities, where the strength of our combined voice can effect greater change for those who need us.



See more about how we fundraise on page 52

The increase in remote working, brought about by COVID-19, has had the impact of reducing our waste production, paper and energy consumption. For example, waste production in 2021 was down by approximately two tonnes annually, compared with before the pandemic. As we move to hybrid working in 2022, we will seek to retain our more sustainable work practices where possible. For example, our paper consumption reduced by around 80% annually (compared to pre-pandemic). To sustain this we have embedded paperless and paper-light processes into our operations, which will help us to retain much of this reduction into the future.

The Society also operates 21 charity shops across the country which contribute to the circular economy by reducing waste and providing new life to clothes and household goods. We estimate that our shops diverted approximately 4,200 tonnes of clothing away from landfill in 2021.

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 organisation to promote and support policies which enable people to live a healthy life. We are members of the Alcohol Health Alliance and part of the Tobacco Free Ireland partner group, working to reduce the health risks from smoking and excessive alcohol consumption.

We also work with other cancer organisations, to avoid duplication of effort and to expand what we can offer to



Serial marathon runner Kate O'Kelly opens up on her cancer experience on the Late Late Show

people in Ireland. In 2021, we partnered 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 also partner with other cancer charities, where the strength of our combined voice can effect greater change for those who need us. We work with children's cancer charities who form our CAYA Advisory Group, helping to inform our work for children, teenagers and young adults affected by cancer. We also collaborate on initiatives to help raise awareness of children's cancer, such as lending our support in September to Light It Up Gold for childhood cancer awareness™, part of an international campaign to raise awareness of childhood, adolescent and young adult cancers first launched in Ireland by Childhood Cancer Foundation Ireland.

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 Volunteer Driving Service to people attending 28 hospitals across the country. We also partner with community cancer support centres, providing funding so that additional 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.



Members of the Society's Children and Adolescent Advisory Group mark Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in September

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. In 2021, for example, we worked with the NCCP to collaboratively develop our survivorship patient education programme, as well as on cancer prevention initiatives. We also worked with the National Screening Service to understand the barriers to screening take-up.

Our research funding supports researchers in hospitals 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 research groups. These groups share research knowledge, experience and funding, and can result in breakthroughs which would not be possible alone. In 2021 we funded Cancer Trials Ireland, Precision Oncology Ireland, and IPCOR, the national prostate cancer research network, as well as supporting the Irish Association of Cancer Research.

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.

In memory

At Christmas 2021, we held our Garden of Light event, where we lit 9,000 lights in memory of the 9,000 lives lost to cancer each year. As an Irish Cancer Society community, we remembered: Elaine Corkery, our colleague and friend on our retail team who trained so many of our Irish Cancer Society shop staff and volunteers; Eileen Rushe, who tirelessly campaigned for the HPV vaccine and cervical screening; Mary Tobin, who appeared in our "Still Here" video and worked to give hope to others; and the many community

fundraisers, volunteers, friends and family members across the Society who we lost to cancer in 2021.

In March 2022, we also sadly said goodbye to our friend, colleague and long-time fundraiser Carmel Murphy. Even through her own illness Carmel spread such warmth and did so much to improve the lives of others living with cancer.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha.

Fundraising Review

March 2021 saw Daffodil Day impacted by COVID-19 for the second year running with public health guidelines causing all in-person and street fundraising to be cancelled.

Indeed the majority of 2021 fundraising methods were impacted by COVID-19, however our incredible supporters and volunteers found unique and inspiring ways to continue to raise funds for the organisation and help us achieve an excellent result for 2021.

The Irish Cancer Society Fundraising and Engagement team pivoted operations towards more digital, data-driven and sustainable modes of generating revenue.

Over the course of 2021 a total of €22 million was raised through donations, legacies and fundraising campaigns.

We needed to roll out a fully online Daffodil Day and devise new and innovative ways of reaching our loyal community of supporters to ensure we raised funds and made up for loss of campaign income in 2020. The trend of virtual/online and reduced opportunity for in-person events continued to prevail throughout the year, with COVID-19 restrictions resulting in many events being cancelled or moved online.

2021 Objectives

- » Optimise our channels and stewardship for digital fundraising.
- » Continue to minimise the impact of COVID-19 on our fundraising income.
- » Grow the Daffodil Day campaign through new messaging to reach new audiences and supporters and grow income.
- » Expand our regular giving offering.
- » Develop new strategic corporate partnerships.

How we did

The standout success of the year came with the biggest and most successful Daffodil Day the organisation has ever had, reaching an income high of over €7 million. The success of the campaign, which was completely online, was driven by a significant brand investment and a strategic engagement plan across all donor segments.

Of this overall figure, a Late Late Show Daffodil Day special delivered over €3 million in donations. While the financial result was incredible, the brand goodwill and support from

partners, staff and volunteers was wholly positive. We also partnered with Revolut to deliver over €150k in donations for Daffodil Day via their app.

The team then maximised the value of a new donor base from Daffodil Day with follow-up impact communications, aiding special appeals income to double year-on-year.

Elsewhere across the new fundraising structure, the following improvements were made to improve all lines which were operating during COVID-19:

- » Increased diversification of portfolio and channels to drive increases in revenue across most income streams, especially in the digital space.
- » Improvements to data hygiene, de-duplicating over 20,000 records, and working with an external agency to identify data improvements.
- » We worked to understand our base with a new supporter survey, and the addition of a survey to the web donation page to improve donor experience and journeys.

Campaigns

Alongside Daffodil Day, campaigns continued to pivot to abide by government guidelines and match new consumer behaviour.

May saw the arrival of another new campaign for our calendar, Splash a Day in May. Building on the growing enthusiasm for the daily dip throughout COVID-19 restrictions, we saw an opportunity to create an online community with sea swimmers, and ran a very successful Facebook campaign bringing in over €370k in income.

With our Colour Dash event off the calendar for the second year running, we navigated our partnership with Aldi and partnered with them to work with us on an individual challenge called Marathon in a Month, which secured an overall income of €165k.

Autumn saw us revitalise our breast cancer campaign under the new title 'Care for Your Pair', and we partnered with key Centra stores throughout the country asking customers to donate €1 at the till as another new way of fundraising with the public. Overall the campaign brought in over €450k.

Christmas time brought a period of reflection on the 9,000 lives lost to cancer, and we created our Garden of Light at our Head Office to remember those we have lost. We combined this with an ask to donate for vital cancer research and services, and together with an online shop



Jackie and Paul Byrne of the Walkieles on the set of the Late Late Show



Top: Presenter Muireann O'Connell attends the Garden of Light event in December
Above: Cavan footballer and cancer survivor Oisín Kiernan
Right: Jedward shave off their famous quiffs in support of a record-breaking Daffodil Day

featuring gift cards and Christmas decorations we raised €160k through our Christmas giving campaign.

Our loyal Relay for Life communities continued to meet and run events virtually with nine Relays happening over the year. The Relays took place virtually across Ireland. TU Dublin joined us for their first year raising an amazing €106k by getting their students involved in virtual walks across the month of March. The Relay committees faced a tough year having to pivot their events to online, but together they raised an amazing €427k.

Marathons, treks and challenges were affected again in 2021 with overseas marathons and treks cancelled, and domestic marathons going virtual.

Committed Giving

Despite the uncertainty of the past year our regular givers stuck with us, with attrition remaining steady. We responded to the market and diversified recruitment methods where traditional face-to-face methods such as door-to-door and private sites were not appropriate due to the pandemic. Despite restrictions we were able to test new channels including our first Direct Response TV advertisement, and digital targeting recruiting over 1,200 new donors.

Special Appeals

Special Appeals saw huge success last year with the highest number of single donors yet responding to our cash and direct mail appeals resulting in income of €340k, 180% of the budgeted income. Increased focus on the tone and messaging of campaigns, particularly around cancer research messaging and patient stories helped deliver this impact.

Community Fundraising

Outside of the Society-run campaigns, once again our loyal supporters and volunteers throughout the country found ways of fundraising over €2.3 million, showing amazing support during a challenging time for many. Despite restrictions, people continued to innovate with online music, coffee mornings, quizzes, burpee competitions, flower arranging and other inventive fundraisers, continually finding ways to come together as a community and support cancer patients when this was needed most. Hurling for Cancer Research completed their 2021 campaign raising almost €100k despite not being able to undertake the actual event. On its 10th anniversary the annual Moylagh JFK 50 Mile Challenge raised €140k, and the organisers have pledged to run the event again in 2022.

Corporate Fundraising

Despite a challenging trading environment for many, our corporate partners stepped up to the challenge again this year.

Boots supported us throughout the year, once again running a virtual Night Walk and they continued their strong support with sponsoring and fundraising around Daffodil Day.

We successfully partnered with other large corporates including with Aldi for our Marathon in a Month campaign in July, and with Centra for our 'Care For Your Pair' breast cancer campaign in October.

Across the country companies continued to find ways of working with us to support Daffodil Day along with running virtual fundraisers, sponsoring our Survivorship Conference and our Your Health Matters roadshows. We also developed a new year-long partnership with Revolut which brought in over €250k in donations across 2021.

In addition, we received generous corporate donations from companies who have been loyal to the Society for many years. 2021 also saw us bring on board some new partners too, choosing to support cancer patients and their families by choosing us as their dedicated charity for 2021.

2022 objectives

- » Continue to optimise all channels to make supporting the Irish Cancer Society a seamless user experience.
- » Continue to redevelop the Daffodil Day campaign in line with new consumer behaviour and trends.
- » Deepen existing corporate partnerships with new offerings, and impact and develop new corporate relationships.
- » Develop our major donor, legacy and regular giving strategies in line with an overall need for sustainable fundraising.
- » Improve the data available to the fundraising team, and identify and target specific segments more efficiently.

The majority of 2021 fundraising methods were impacted by COVID-19, however our incredible supporters and volunteers found unique and inspiring ways to continue to raise funds for the organisation and help us achieve an excellent result for 2021.

Financial Review

2021 was a challenging year for the Irish Cancer Society due to the continuing restrictions and uncertainties related to COVID-19. As a result the Society continued its focus on digital income streams, and with the help of its valued supporters, volunteers and employees, succeeded in raising €26.6m.

In 2021, the Society's total income was €26.6m (2020: €21.9m), an increase of €4.7m (21%) on prior year. The Society's total expenditure was €23.1m in 2021 (2020: €20.4m), an increase of €2.7m (13%) on prior year.

Income

The vast majority of 2021 income came from the generous support of the public, through fundraising campaigns, donations, legacies and charity shop sales. Grants from the State represented only 3% of total income (2020: 7%).

Income	2021	2020
Donations and Legacies	€22.0m	€17.3m
Trading Activities	€2.5m	€2.0m
Charitable Activities	€1.7m	€1.9m
Other	€0.4m	€0.7m
Total Income	€26.6m	€21.9m

Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on income

The Society's annual flagship fundraising street and community based event, Daffodil Day, which was scheduled to take place on 26 March, was cancelled for the second year in a row due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. All other face-to-face fundraising events were also cancelled, and the Society ran all its 2021 campaigns online. All 21 of the Society's charity shops were closed for the first five months of the year as a result of government restrictions.

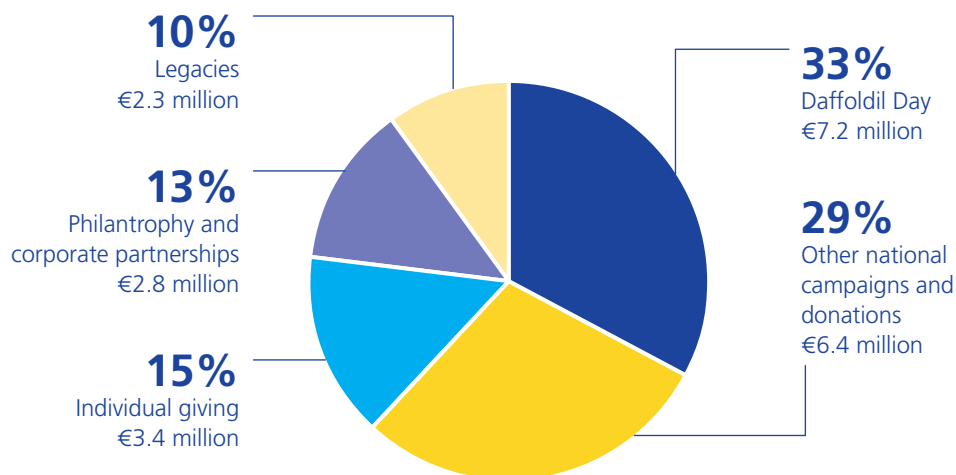
Donations and legacies

Income from donations and legacies in 2021 was €22.0m. This was €4.7m higher than in 2020.

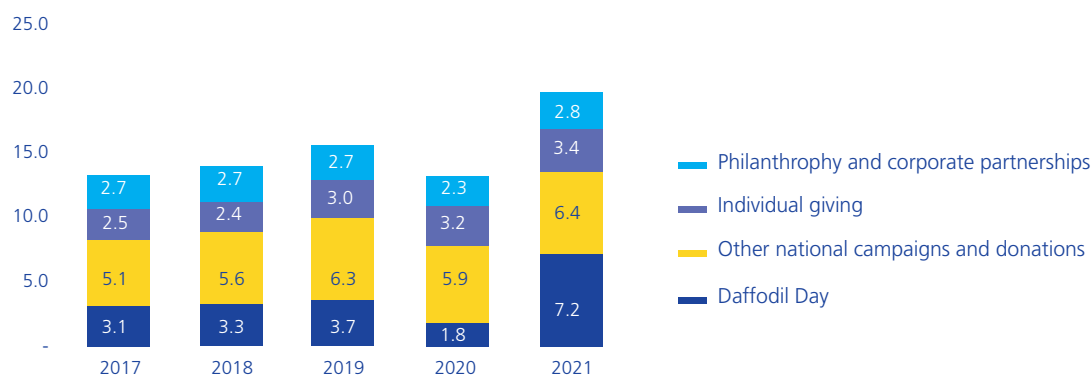
Donations

The Society received €19.7m in donations in 2021 (2020: €13.2m), a 49% increase on 2020. Despite the traditional community-based Daffodil Day having been cancelled in 2021, the campaign showed a significant increase when compared to 2020, bringing in a total of €7.2m (2020: €1.8m). This increase was driven by a dedicated Daffodil Day Late Late Show on RTÉ 1, the Society's "Still Here" TV media campaign, and virtual fundraising events. The media attention generated from the Daffodil Day campaign positively impacted the Society's other income streams for the remainder of the year. And in spite of the many challenges, other national campaigns and donations contributed a total of €6.4m in 2021 (2020: €5.9m), showing an increase of 8% on 2020; the Society succeeded in increasing by 100% its income from online platforms in 2021, and furthermore the proportion of donations received by the Society in 2021 through digital channels was 60% compared with 45% in 2020. The Society managed to improve on its 2020

2021 Donations and Legacies



Donations 2017-2021



level of individual giving income; the total for 2021 was €3.4m (2020: €3.2m), an increase of 6%. This was as a result of successful special appeal campaigns. Income from philanthropy and corporate partnerships totalled €2.8m in 2021, a 24% increase on 2020. Overall, in spite of COVID-19 having impacted on the Society's ability to organise events, the Society successfully managed to increase its income across many streams thanks to numerous innovative digital fundraising initiatives.

The Society's donations have been increasing steadily since 2017, with the exception of 2020 which showed a decrease due to the Society having been curtailed in its fundraising efforts due to the initial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Legacies

The Society's income from legacies was €2.3m in 2021, a decrease of €1.8m on 2020. In 2020 the Society benefited from four separate legacies greater than €300k in value, where as in 2021 the Society benefited from only one legacy greater than €300k in value.

Trading activities

Income from the Society's 21 (2020: 21) charity shops increased by €0.5m (26%) compared to 2020. This was despite the shops having been closed for the same period of time as in 2020. In 2021 the shops were closed during a quieter time of the year than in 2020; the Society also successfully adapted to new and more efficient ways of working in 2021 in response to the COVID-19 restrictions. Overall, the charity shops contributed a net surplus of €0.2m in 2021 (2020: net deficit of €0.3m).

Charitable activities

Income from charitable activities of €1.7m was €0.2m lower than in 2020. This income includes grants to support the Travel2Care and Night Nursing programmes, as well as reimbursements for Night Nursing services provided. In 2020 the Society received an additional grant from the HSE in relation to its Night Nursing programme and as a result of COVID-19.

Other income

Other income of €0.3m was €0.4m lower than in 2020. This was due to the Society having availed of two COVID-19 related government schemes in 2020; the Temporary Wage Subsidy Scheme, and the Restart Grant Scheme. In 2021 €0.1m was received in relation to the Restart Grant Scheme.

Income from government agencies represented 3% of the Society's total income in 2021 (2020: 7%).

Expenditure

In 2021, the Society invested €23.1m (2020: €20.4m) in furtherance of its goals.

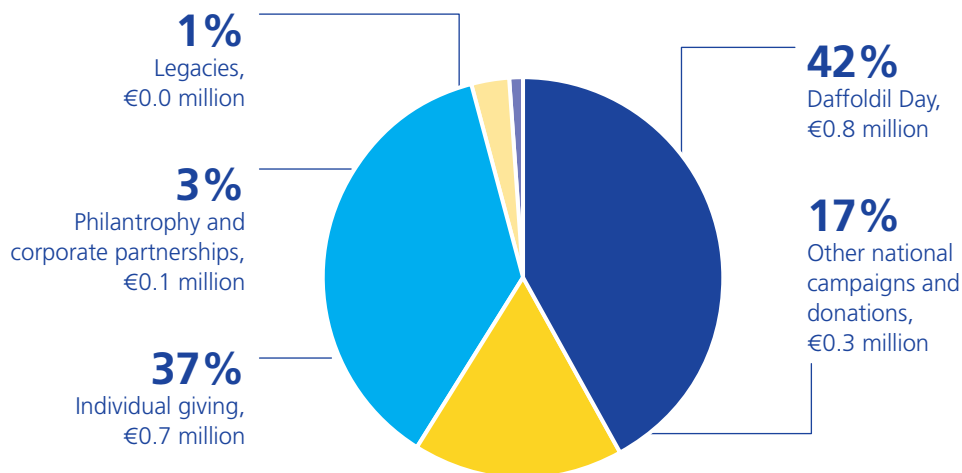
Expenditure	2021	2020
Charitable Activities	€16.1m	€14.4m
Fundraising Activities	€4.7m	€3.8m
Trading Activities	€2.3m	€2.2m
Total Expenditure	€23.1m	€20.4m

For every euro spent by the Society, 77c (2020: 79c) went on charitable activities (not including trading activities). A further 23c (2020: 21c) was spent by the Society to raise money to fund its charitable activities. This increase was due to additional spend on the individual giving programme in 2021, and an increased investment in the Daffodil Day appeal.

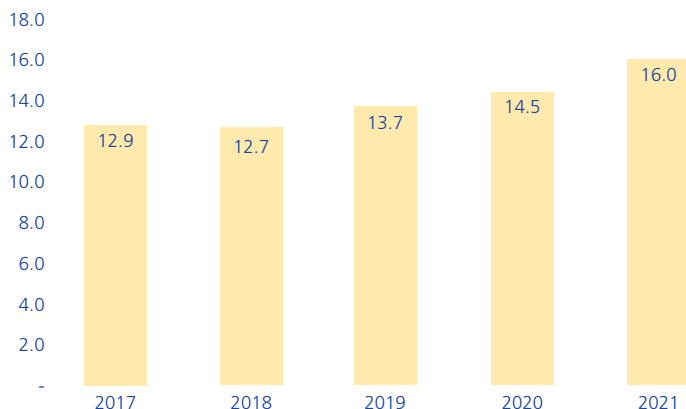
Charitable activities

Expenditure in relation to charitable activities in 2021 was €16.1m (2020: €14.4m), an increase of €1.7m (12%) in relation to 2020. This increase was due to the Society having spent an additional €0.4m in relation to affiliate grants to fund counselling services in the community, and an additional €0.3m in relation to financial assistance grants for families with children affected by cancer.

2021 Fundraising Direct Expenditure



Charitable Activities Expenditure 2017-2021



The Society also spent €1.5m extra on research projects and €0.3m extra on advocacy initiatives. In spite of the many challenges presented by COVID-19 related restrictions, the Society managed to significantly increase its spend on supports for cancer patients.

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

Fundraising activities

€4.7m was spent on fundraising activities (2020: €3.8m), an increase of €0.9m (24%) on 2020 expenditure. This increase was due to the Society increasing its efforts in promoting fundraising campaigns, especially Daffodil Day, and increasing its investment in its individual giving programme.

For every euro spent on fundraising activities in 2021, the Society raised €4.60 in donations and legacies (2020: €4.50).

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 €2.9m (2020: €2.8m).

Trading activities

Trading activities spend was €2.3m, which was an increase of €0.1m (4%) on 2020.

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 2021 were €33.9m (2020: €29.4m). Of this, €0.4m (2020: €0.5m) was held in restricted funds, as the funds were donated for specific purposes. €33.5m (2020: €28.9m) was held in unrestricted funds; €1.0m (2020: €1.0m) of this was held in designated funds. At 31 December 2021, the Society held 12.2 months on a €30m expenditure basis (31 December 2020: 11.5 months on a €25m expenditure basis) of expenditure in cash and investments. The €30m expenditure basis reflects the budgeted spend for 2022. During 2020, the Society launched a new ambitious five-year strategy, and this level of cash and investments will allow expenditure on new programmes under the new strategy. The Society has budgeted for a deficit in 2022, and based on its five-year financial plan, expects to incur significant deficits over the next five years as it invests in a number of new initiatives to improve the lives of those affected by cancer; it is expected that by the end of 2027 the Society will be balancing its income and expenditure, and its cash and investments balance will be in line with its target. 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

The €1.0m fund at the year-end relating to research was held to protect currently committed research programmes from future unexpected variations in income. The time horizon on research programmes is typically three to five years.

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 2021, the Society's invested funds yielded an average return of +12.9% (2020: +8.7%). There was a gain on investments of €0.9m in 2021 (2020: gain of €0.5m).

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.

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:

- » 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 17th September 2020 and 1st July 2021, respectively.

Members

There are currently 47 members of the Irish Cancer Society, 10 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 which meets six times per year. The Directors are responsible for the governance and overall oversight of the organisation and its activities.

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 ordinarily serve for a maximum of six years. This can be extended by the Board in exceptional circumstances by a further three years, if such extension serves the best interests of the Society. Board committee members are appointed for three years, extendable by a further three years, at the discretion of 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.

Each year one third of Directors are subject to retirement by rotation. In 2021, Prof Liam Grogan, Alex White and Ger Penny offered themselves for re-election and were duly re-elected. In July 2021, Andrew Craig retired from the Board and also as Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee.

Director nomination and recruitment is overseen by the Board Effectiveness Committee. The Committee undertook a Board skills review in late 2020, and following on from this, recommended to the Board the recruitment of two additional Board members. In July 2021, Allan Kearns, was appointed to the Board and as Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee. In addition, Dr Mary Canavan was appointed to the Board in September 2021, and joined the Society's Research Advisory Committee in January 2022.

These new appointments brought additional skills and expertise to the Board.

The Board extended the tenure of three Directors serving over six years - Prof Liam Grogan, Dr Cormac Kilty and Kieran Crowley. This was to support Board continuity, as there has been a number of new appointments to the Board in recent years.

In addition to the new Board appointments, Conor King resigned as Company Secretary in March 2022. The Board appointed Emma Browne to replace him.

Induction

All new Directors receive a comprehensive induction, overseen by Management. 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.

Board training is considered by the Chair and Company Secretary annually. Board members attend external training as required and are also provided with briefings from the Executive Leadership Team throughout the year.

Board Evaluation

The Board reviews its own effectiveness each year and commissions an external Board evaluation every three years. In 2020, an independent external Board evaluation was conducted. In 2021, the Board Effectiveness Committee oversaw a Board self-evaluation to assess Board efficiency and effectiveness. A similar survey was conducted in 2019. The evaluation showed an improvement in almost all areas and all categories were rated as 'above average'. The review demonstrated that good governance procedures are in place and the Board was working effectively. When compared to the 2019 evaluation, particular improvements were seen in strategic oversight and Board stewardship; the committee structure; succession planning and Director induction and training. Further areas of focus for the Board over the next year are: continuing to advance diversity; performance evaluation; and a Board workshop in 2022.

In 2023, an external Board evaluation will be conducted again.

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 2020 we developed our Governance Manual; restructured our Board committees and re-drafted their terms of references; established a Board tenure policy; and strengthened our induction process. In 2021 areas of focus for the Board Effectiveness Committee were strengthening the Directors' Code of Conduct; an amendment to the Society's Constitution; reviewing the Matters Reserved for the Board policy; and creating a Matters Reserved for the AGM policy.

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, so it can be managed appropriately. In addition, Directors sign a register of interests declaration annually declaring their interests, and a register of interests is maintained by the Company Secretary.

The following Board and committee meetings were held in 2021:

Meetings held *	
Board of Directors	6
Finance Committee	6
Audit and Risk Committee	3
Board Effectiveness Committee	2
Research Advisory Committee	2

The following table shows Directors for the financial year 2021, 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)	6 of 6	13 Jul 20	
Prof Liam Grogan	5 of 6	22 Nov 12	
Kieran Crowley	6 of 6	02 Oct 14	
Dr Cormac Kilty	5 of 6	19 Feb 15	
Prof Sinead Brennan	4 of 6	01 Sep 16	
Andrew Craig	3 of 3	01 Jul 17	01 July 21
Ger Penny	6 of 6	05 Mar 20	
Alex White	5 of 6	25 Mar 20	
Irene O'Gorman	6 of 6	25 Mar 20	
Allan Kearns	4 of 4	01 Jul 21	
Dr Mary Canavan	3 of 3	8 Sep 21	

Executive Leadership Team

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

The Management team in 2021 was as follows:

- » CEO, Averil Power
- » Director of Finance & Organisational Development, Conor King
- » Director of Services Delivery & Innovation, Donal Buggy
- » Director of Research, Robert O'Connor
- » Director of Advocacy and External Affairs, Rachel Morrogh
- » Director of Fundraising & Engagement, Fionnuala O'Leary

Matters such as 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.

In 2022 the Board set up a remuneration working group to oversee a review of CEO and executive pay and performance.

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 2021 activity: During 2021 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 2022 budgeting process, and it was notified of any significant payments and commitments. Additionally, the Committee reviewed trading performance of the Society's twenty-one charity shops and reviewed the financial implications of the Covid-19 pandemic on the Society's operations.

Finance Committee Attendance 2021

Ger Penny (Chair)	6 of 6
Jane Neill *	5 of 6
Irene O'Gorman	5 of 6
Maria Fleming *	4 of 4

* Maria Fleming was appointed as a Committee member in June 2021. In January 2022, Jane Neill retired from the Committee.

Audit and Risk Committee

The Audit and Risk Committee assists the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities by independently reviewing the annual financial statements, overseeing the external audit, reviewing the effectiveness of the Society's internal controls as well as adherence to the Charities Regulator 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 2021 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, reviewing the financial statements and Annual Report, and ultimately recommending them to the Board. The Committee also reviewed the Society's risk register, which included a deeper consideration of key risks arising for the Society in achieving its strategy. In addition, they oversaw a review of the Society's compliance with the Charities Regulator Governance Code, and compliance with other key regulatory and statutory obligations.

Audit & Risk Attendance 2021

Allan Kearns (Chair)	3 of 3
Andrew Craig *	1 of 1
Dr Cormac Kilty	3 of 3
Alex White	2 of 3

* Andrew Craig retired as Chair of the Committee in July 2021. Allan Kearns was appointed as a Committee member in June 2021, and replaced Andrew Craig as Chair in July 2021.

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 effectiveness.

Report of 2021 activity: The Committee considered Board and committee succession planning and reviewed Board composition, recommending the recruitment of two new Directors to the Board. It supervised the internal Board evaluation and recommended amendments to the Directors Code of Conduct, Matters Reserved for the Board policy and the Constitution.

Board Effectiveness Attendance 2021

Brid Horan (Chair)	2 of 2
Ger Penny	2 of 2
Dr Cormac Kilty	2 of 2
Allan Kearns*	1 of 1
Andrew Craig*	1 of 1
Conor King* (Company Secretary)	2 of 2
Averil Power (CEO)	2 of 2

* Andrew Craig retired from the Board, and therefore this Committee in July 2021. Allan Kearns was appointed in his place. Conor King resigned as Company Secretary in March 2022.

Research Advisory 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 2021 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 new strategy and reviewed the research budget for 2022. The Committee oversaw the implementation of the first year of our five-year research roadmap. It also provided guidance to the Society on how to make research investments that provide the greatest impact to those with cancer.

Research Advisory Attendance 2021

Dr Cormac Kilty (Chair)	2 of 2
Prof Sir Alex Markham	1 of 2
Dr Susan Gapstur	2 of 2
Prof John Reynolds	2 of 2
Eileen O'Sullivan *	2 of 2

* In January 2022, Eileen O'Sullivan rotated off the Committee and Dr Mary Canavan was appointed in her place.

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 2021, 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.

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

- » Compliant with 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.

Directors' Compliance Statement

The Society is required to prepare a Section 225 Compliance Statement (Companies Act 2014) for 2021, 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 2021, 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 Management and Internal Control

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 are responsible for the day-to-day operation of its risk processes. Management monitors the level of risks on an ongoing basis and the Board reviews this regularly.

As part of the risk management process an annual risk review is undertaken. The aim of the review is to ensure that the Society is not exposed to an unacceptable level of preventable risk and to identify risk mitigation strategies. As part of the review in 2021 each risk was assigned to a relevant member of the Management team, reviewed by them, and updated with appropriate mitigation strategies. The updated 2021 risk register was then considered by the Audit and Risk Committee and reported to the Board. The Risk Management Policy is scheduled for a full review in 2022.

Annually, the Audit and Risk Committee consider the internal audit needs of the Society, based on our risk management process and the results of the external audit, and select the relevant controls for independent testing. The internal audit function is led by our legal and compliance function. Where appropriate, staff who have the relevant expertise, may be seconded to conduct internal audit activities. Otherwise, it may be outsourced to a third party provider under the supervision of the Audit and Risk Committee.

In 2021, the following areas were tested:

- » Assessment of our cyber security protocols against the NIST Framework
- » A review of our retail shops to ensure adherence to our cash handling policy

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 whistleblowing system. In 2021, no instances of fraud came to the attention of Management or the Board.

The aim of the risk review is to ensure that the Society is not exposed to an unacceptable level of preventable risk and to identify risk mitigation strategies.

The following are the top five risks identified in 2021.

1. Failure to respond to cancer patients' needs:

The risk that the Society will fail to respond to cancer patients' needs in the current environment.

Mitigation measures

- » Growing our feedback mechanisms with patients and key stakeholders.
 - » Adapting and expanding our services to meet cancer patients' needs.
 - » Regular contact with key State stakeholders.
 - » Continued tracking and monitoring of health appointment attendance, and cancer detection and diagnostic waiting times.
 - » Funding research into the impact of Covid-19.
-

2. Failure to Demonstrate Impact:

Failure to demonstrate and communicate the impact of our work.

Mitigation measures

- » Expansion of the project management office to support development of large-scale strategic projects.
 - » Oversight of 2022 strategy implementation plan by the ELT Programme Board and the Society's Board.
 - » Review of the Reserves policy by the Finance Committee and the Board.
 - » New and innovative ways to show impact e.g. podcasts and personal stories.
-

3. Information Security Risk:

The risk of a cybersecurity attack and data theft.

Mitigation measures

- » Induction and annual staff training in GDPR and IT security.
 - » Vigilant implementation of a security policy, hybrid working policy and Cyber breach response plan.
 - » Benchmarking against best practice.
 - » Appointment of external cyber security expertise. Supplement internal expertise with access to external cyber security practitioners.
-

4. Services Provision Risk:

Risk that the Society's resources will not be sufficient to meet increased demand for services due to an increase in cancer incidence and increasing complexity of cancer diagnosis.

Mitigation measures

- » As part of the 2022 strategy implementation plan a number of projects are underway to respond to demand and complexity.
 - » Demand for services is considered as part of the Board's strategic oversight and in the annual budget process.
 - » Active monitoring of service users' unmet needs and requirements.
 - » Agile and responsive actions to meet challenges faced by patients and health care professionals.
-

5. People Risk:

The risk that the Society will not be able to attract and retain talent at all levels including staff and Directors.

Mitigation measures

- » Ongoing monitoring of resource gaps.
 - » Performance management process adapted to reflect leading practices.
 - » Commitment to a flexible working environment and an Employee Assistance Programme in place.
 - » Board succession planning in place.
 - » Development of a People Strategy and investment in staff training and development.
-

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: 30 June 2022

Our Board

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



Brid Horan, Chair

Brid is an independent Non-Executive Director experienced in executive roles and on public and private boards. Currently Chair of Nephin Energy, Director of PM Group, Chancellor of Dublin City University and Governing Authority Chair. Brid was ESB Deputy Chief Executive until 2014, has served on the boards of IDA Ireland, FBD Holdings plc and National Pensions Reserve Fund and as Co-Chair of Balance for Better Business. She is an Actuary, Chartered Director and Fellow IOD.



The last year has been another particularly challenging one for those affected by cancer. Through the dedicated work of our staff and volunteers, the Irish Cancer Society continues to invest in cancer research and clinical trials and to provide invaluable services and supports. The Board and I are deeply grateful to them and to our generous donors.



Professor Sinead Brennan

Sinead is a Radiation Oncologist in St. Luke's Hospital, Rathgar and in St. James 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.



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.



Kieran Crowley

Kieran is a Chartered Accountant and a Chartered Director. He is a Business Consultant advising Board and business owners on change, risk management, strategy and governance, with experience as a Board member in many companies.



The Society has thousands who volunteer to make things better for their friends and family hit with cancer, and that's why I do it too.



Professor Liam Grogan

Liam is a Consultant Medical Oncologist in Beaumont Hospital and is an Honorary Clinical Associate Professor in the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.



I became involved in the Society to support its independent voice and caring hand guiding cancer patients on their journey.



Dr Cormac G. Kilty PhD

Cormac is a Biotech Entrepreneur retired from executive functions; managing a biotech investment portfolio and involved with two Angel Investment groups in Ireland.

He was voted one of the top 100 influential Ireland-US business leaders by 'Business and Finance' in 2007 and 2008 and was awarded the U.S.- Ireland Biolink award for contribution to Irish Life Sciences in 2007. Cormac is presently an Adjunct Professor of Medicine and Medicinal Chemistry at UCD.



The Society's research funding is a major contributor in training our oncology researchers in Ireland.



Ger Penny

Ger is a qualified accountant and Chartered Director, with more than 25 years' experience in strategic and financial management in organisations across Ireland, the UK and Asia. He is CFO of the Sisk Group.



The pandemic has shown to me the importance of the role that the Society plays in advocating the critical need to keep cancer care and prevention high on all stakeholders' agendas.



Irene O'Gorman

Irene is a highly experienced Chief Marketing Officer, currently with EY Ireland. Prior to that she has held marketing director roles with KPMG in the Middle East, Deloitte in Ireland and has also worked with 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 where no one dies from cancer.



Alex White

Alex White SC is an experienced advocate and mediator, with a specialism in employment law. He is 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

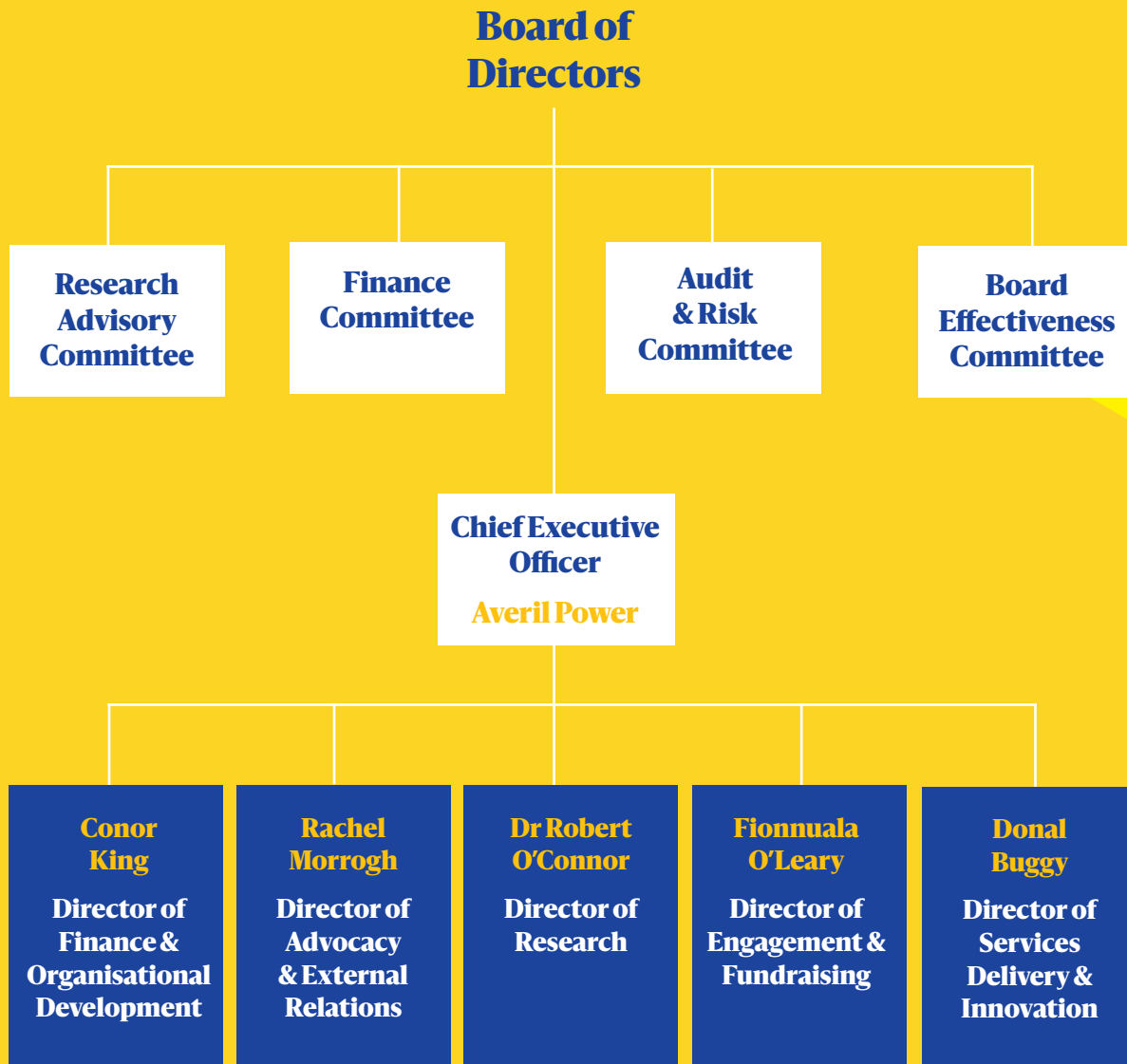
Dr Mary Canavan obtained her PhD in Immunology in 2012 and is now an Assistant Professor in Immunology in Trinity College Dublin. Her research group focuses on the immunological mechanisms that drive Rheumatological diseases. Mary is an Irish Cancer Society advocacy champion and PPI reviewer and has 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.



Irish Cancer Society Organisation Chart 2021





Financial Statements

Financial Statements

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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 2021 and of the profit 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 Cash Flow Statement; and
- the related notes 1 to 28, 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.

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.

Independent auditor's report (continued)

to the members of Irish Cancer Society

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: http://www.iaasa.ie/getmedia/b2389013-1cf6-458b-9b8f-a98202dc9c3a/Description_of_auditors_responsibilities_for_audit.pdf. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

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: 1 July 2022

Statement of financial activities

	Notes	2021 Unrestricted	2021 Restricted	2021 Designated	2021 Total	2020 Unrestricted	2020 Restricted	2020 Designated	2020 Total
		€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
INCOME:									
Donations and legacies	3(a)	18,773	3,241	-	22,014	14,757	2,524	-	17,281
Trading activities	3(b)	2,534	-	-	2,534	2,026	-	-	2,026
Investments	3(c)	106	-	-	106	92	-	-	92
Charitable activities	3(d)	964	700	-	1,664	908	960	-	1,868
Other income	3(e)	269	-	-	269	682	-	-	682
Total income		22,646	3,941	-	26,587	18,465	3,484	-	21,949
EXPENDITURE:									
Charitable activities	4	12,024	4,004	-	16,028	10,290	4,164	-	14,454
Fundraising activities	5	4,757	14	-	4,771	3,818	-	-	3,818
Trading activities		2,256	-	-	2,256	2,189	-	-	2,189
Total expenditure		19,037	4,018	-	23,055	16,297	4,164	-	20,461
Net gain on investments	13	891	-	-	891	545	-	-	545
Net income	9	4,500	(77)	-	4,423	2,713	(680)	-	2,033
Taxation	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers between funds	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		4,499	(77)	-	4,423	2,713	(680)	-	2,033
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:									
Funds balances brought forward		27,942	490	1,000	29,432	25,229	1,170	1,000	27,399
Funds balances carried forward		32,442	413	1,000	33,855	27,942	490	1,000	29,432

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.

Balance sheet

	Notes	2021 €'000	2020 €'000
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	12	8,824	9,135
Total Fixed Assets		8,824	9,135
Current Assets			
Investments	13	8,142	7,210
Stocks		256	222
Debtors: Amounts falling due within one year	15	1,348	1,872
Cash at bank and in hand		22,389	16,785
Total Current Assets		32,135	26,089
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	16	(3,946)	(3,510)
Net current assets		28,189	22,579
Total assets less current liabilities		37,013	31,714
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year			
Long term liabilities	16	(3,158)	(2,282)
NET ASSETS		33,855	29,432
Funds:			
	8		
Restricted income funds		413	490
Unrestricted income funds			
General income funds		32,442	27,942
Designated income funds		1,000	1,000
Total unrestricted income funds		33,442	28,942
TOTAL FUNDS		33,855	29,432

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board of directors on 30 June 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



Brid Horan
Director



Allan Kearns
Director

Statement of cash flows

	Notes	2021 €'000	2020 €'000
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash generated by operating activities	19	6,666	3,133
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Deposit interest received		-	2
Purchase of fixed assets	12	(130)	(245)
Net cash flow from investing activities		(130)	(243)
Increase in cash and cash equivalents		6,536	2,890
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		23,995	21,105
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December		30,531	23,995
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents			
Bank and cash		22,389	16,785
Cash equivalents		8,142	7,210
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December		30,531	23,995

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 2021 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 voluntarily 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 2021 Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet, the approved 2022 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.

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.

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

Charitable activities

Grant income

Grant income from government agencies and other entities 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 accruals 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.

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.

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

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.

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.

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

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	2021 Unrestricted €'000	2021 Restricted €'000	2021 Total €'000	2020 Total €'000
Daffodil Day	7,118	35	7,153	1,805
Other national campaigns & donations	4,515	1,847	6,362	5,936
Total national campaigns & donations	11,633	1,882	13,515	7,741
Individual giving	3,156	218	3,374	3,176
Philanthropy & corporate partnerships	1,963	860	2,823	2,279
Total Donations	16,752	2,960	19,712	13,196
Legacies	2,021	281	2,302	4,085
Total	18,773	3,241	22,014	17,281

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	2021 Unrestricted €'000	2021 Restricted €'000	2021 Total €'000	2020 Total €'000
Shop income	2,521	-	2,521	2,013
Other trading activities	13	-	13	13
Total	2,534	-	2,534	2,026

c) Investments	2021 Unrestricted €'000	2021 Restricted €'000	2021 Total €'000	2020 Total €'000
Investment income	106	-	106	91
Deposit interest	-	-	-	1
Total	106	-	106	92

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

3. Income (continued)

d) Income from charitable activities	2021 Unrestricted €'000	2021 Restricted €'000	2021 Total €'000	2020 Total €'000
HSE – Travel2Care - NCCP	-	350	350	350
HSE – Night Nursing - National Palliative Care Programme	-	350	350	450
HSE – Night Nursing - once-off funding	-	-	-	100
HSE – Tobacco Free Ireland Programme	-	-	-	39
Trinity College Dublin – We Can Quit Programme	-	-	-	18
Government grants relating to Charitable Activities	-	700	700	957
Night nursing reimbursements	947	-	947	889
Other	17	-	17	22
Total	964	700	1,664	1,868

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.

f) Other income	2021 Unrestricted €'000	2021 Restricted €'000	2021 Total €'000	2020 Total €'000
VAT Compensation Scheme	56	-	56	68
COVID-19 Government subsidies and grants	109	-	109	614
Other	104	-	104	-
Total	269	-	269	682

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.

	2021 Healthy Living €'000	2021 Catching Cancer early €'000	2021 Treating Cancer €'000	2021 Living Well €'000	2021 End of Life Care €'000	2021 Total €'000
Services and Advocacy						
Public and patient awareness and education campaigns	313	314	325	329	183	1,464
Support group affiliation *	-	-	454	453	-	907
Volunteer drivers	-	-	289	-	-	289
Travel2Care (NCCP)	-	-	-	409	-	409
Financial support	-	-	-	417	-	417
Pilot services grants	-	-	-	-	-	-
Night nursing	-	-	-	-	3,518	3,518
Daffodil centres *	28	74	437	353	37	929
Support line *	9	24	141	114	12	300
Programme management	23	23	23	22	23	114
Advocacy	67	116	127	213	66	589
Operating costs	53	65	198	214	278	808
Total direct and operating costs	493	616	1,994	2,524	4,117	9,744
Support costs	113	139	422	460	606	1,740
Total Services and Advocacy	606	755	2,416	2,984	4,723	11,484
Research						
Translational	-	-	671	-	-	671
Survivorship	-	140	398	796	-	1,334
Trials	-	-	1,450	-	-	1,450
Other strategic	-	-	366	56	-	422
Operating costs	-	15	356	90	-	461
Total direct and operating costs	-	155	3,241	942	-	4,338
Support costs	-	7	159	40	-	206
Total Research	-	162	3,400	982	-	4,544
Total Charitable Activities	606	917	5,816	3,966	4,723	16,028

* 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 table above.

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

	2021 Unrestricted	2021 Restricted	2021 Total	2020 Total
	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
Services and Advocacy				
Public and patient awareness and education campaigns	1,395	69	1,464	1,438
Support group affiliation *	907	-	907	524
Volunteer drivers	233	56	289	278
Travel2Care (NCCP)	-	409	409	326
Financial support	416	1	417	165
Pilot services grants	-	-	-	555
Night nursing	1,949	1,569	3,518	3,636
Daffodil centres *	736	193	929	925
Support line *	238	62	300	273
Programme management	114	-	114	59
Advocacy	589	-	589	329
Operating costs	808	-	808	1,196
Total direct and operating costs	7,385	2,359	9,744	9,704
Support costs	1,714	26	1,740	1,790
Total Services and Advocacy	9,099	2,385	11,484	11,494
Research				
Translational	109	562	671	730
Survivorship	712	622	1,334	401
Trials	1,330	120	1,450	1,008
Other strategic	107	315	422	221
Operating costs	461	-	461	451
Total direct and operating costs	2,719	1,619	4,338	2,811
Support costs	206	-	206	149
Total Research	2,925	1,619	4,544	2,960
Total Charitable Activities	12,024	4,004	16,028	14,454

* 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 table above.

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

5. Fundraising Activities

Costs comprise the following:

	2021 Unrestricted €'000	2021 Restricted €'000	2021 Total €'000	2020 Total €'000
Daffodil Day	751	14	765	467
Other national campaigns and donations	318	-	318	424
Total national campaigns and donations	1,069	14	1,083	891
Individual giving	679	-	679	274
Philanthropy and corporate partnerships	61	-	61	58
Total donations	1,809	14	1,823	1,223
Legacies	15	-	15	14
Donations and Legacies costs	1,824	14	1,838	1,237
Operating costs	1,866	-	1,866	1,657
Total direct costs	3,690	14	3,704	2,894
Investment management costs	65	-	65	56
Support costs (Note 6)	1,002	-	1,002	868
Total	4,757	14	4,771	3,818

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

6. Support Costs

Support costs are the costs of personnel and associated information 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:

- 59% to Services and Advocacy
- 34% to Fundraising
- 7% to Research

	2021 Services and Advocacy €'000	2021 Research €'000	2021 Fundraising €'000	2021 Total €'000	2020 Total €'000
Information Technology	645	76	371	1,092	906
Finance	372	44	214	630	572
Human Resources	213	25	123	361	407
Other	510	61	294	865	922
Total	1,740	206	1,002	2,948	2,807

Included in the support costs are the following governance costs:

	2021 €'000	2020 €'000
Legal and professional fees	7	38
Audit fees	31	29
Total	38	67

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

7. Research Grants

Expenditure on the following grants was charged in 2021:

Recipient	Project Description	€'000
Cancer Trials Ireland	Strategic funding for 2021.	1,000
Dr Noelle Cullinan	ICS Clinician Leadership Award in Paediatric Cancer Genetics. Awarded to Children's Health Ireland Crumlin.	397
Professor Kathleen Bennett & Dr Maeve Mullooly	COVID-19 Modelling Project entitled "Examining the impact of COVID19 on cancer in Ireland". Awarded to RCSI University of Medicine & Health Sciences.	315
Dr Graeme Sullivan	The ICS Translational Research Fellowship Award entitled "Defining the pro-survival signalling of the bone marrow microenvironment of multiple myeloma". Awarded to RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences.	242
Dr Daniel Angelov	ICS Translational PhD Scholarship Award 2021 entitled "Understanding the role of EZH2 deregulation in Follicular Lymphoma: novel strategies to inhibit its function". Awarded to Trinity College Dublin.	160
Martin Brennan	ICS Translational PhD Scholarship Award 2021 entitled "Investigating the immunometabolic changes that occur during weight loss and induce tumour immunogenicity". Awarded to Trinity College Dublin.	160
Dr Amara Naseer	The ICS Social, Nursing and Allied Health Research Fellowship Award 2021 entitled "Advancing Care of OsteoRadioNecrosis (ACORN) in Ireland". Awarded to Trinity College Dublin.	160
Chloe Moore	The ICS Social, Nursing and Allied Health Research Fellowship Award 2021 entitled "ENHANCE-EnhaNcing Health literacy among Cancer caregivErs". Awarded to Dublin City University.	154
Dr Jarushka Naidoo	Clinician Research Leadership Award 2022 – Lung. Awarded to RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences.	150
Dr Karen Cadoo	Clinician Research Leadership Award 2022 – Cancer Genetics. Awarded to Trinity College Dublin.	150
Dr Aoife Lowery	Clinician Research Leadership Award 2022 – Breast cancer. Awarded to National University of Ireland, Galway.	150
Dr Emer Guinan	Covid Cancer Rapid Response Award 2021 entitled " Personalised Exercise Rehabilitation in Cancer Survivorship: The PERCS Programme". Awarded to Trinity College Dublin. Funded by the Irish Cancer Society with support from the National Cancer Control Programme.	150
Sophie Mulcahy Symmons	The ICS Social Nursing and Allied Health PhD Scholarship 2021 entitled "Promoting HPV Cervical Screening: co-designing an educational intervention to overcome barriers and promote screening uptake in under-represented groups". Awarded to University College Dublin.	140
Caitríona Duggan & Dr Peter Carr	ICS Cancer Nursing Research Award 2021 entitled "Effectiveness of ultrasound for peripheral intravenous cannulation in oncology patients. A mixed method design". Awarded to National University of Ireland, Galway. Funded by the Irish Cancer Society with support from the National Cancer Control Programme.	120
Prof Adrian Bracken	The Cancers With Unmet Needs Translational Research Award 2021 entitled "Targeting underlying disease biology in DIPG tumours". Awarded to Trinity College Dublin.	99

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

7. Research Grants (continued)

Recipient	Project Description	€'000
Jennifer Fitzpatrick	The ICS Nursing & Allied Health PhD Scholarship Award 2021 entitled "The development, implementation and evaluation of a health behaviour change intervention for adolescents who have completed active cancer treatment". Awarded to Technological University of the Shannon, Athlone.	70
Prof Declan Devane	Misinformation and Disinformation in Cancer Award 2021 entitled "Informed Health Choices-Cancer (IHC-Cancer)". Awarded to National University of Ireland, Galway.	65
Prof Roisin Connolly & Prof Josephine Hegarty	Women's Health Initiative Additional Funding 2021 for project entitled "The development and implementation of cancer survivorship services for women with metastatic breast cancer: A qualitative study". Awarded to University College Cork.	53
Prof Donal Brennan	Women's Health Initiative Additional Funding 2021 for project to further develop the www.Thisisgo.ie patient platform. Awarded to University College Dublin.	50
Prof Suzanne Guerin	Underrepresented Communities Scoping Award 2021 entitled "Examining the experiences of underrepresented and marginalised groups in the Adolescent & Young Adult cancer population in Ireland". Awarded to University College Dublin.	50
Dr Sinéad Lynch	Covid Cancer Rapid Response Award 2021 entitled "Comparing group-based Compassion Focused Therapy and breathing pattern retraining with Treatment As Usual on the psychological functioning of patients diagnosed with cancer recurrence during COVID: a randomised control trial". Awarded to University College Dublin Funded by the Irish Cancer Society with support from the National Cancer Control Programme.	34
Various	Various research projects and grants, including support of IARC conference and student grants.	64
Various	Prior years research grants unused/cancelled and returned	(56)
Operating Costs	Management of tenders, review and oversight	461
Total direct costs		4,338
Support and central costs	(Note 4)	206
Total		4,544

The summary above includes the commitments entered into and recognised in 2021. Grant recipients typically receive payments over the period of the grant which is determined by the conditions of the underlying agreement. During the year 129 researchers worked on research projects funded by the Society (2020: 120).

The process for guiding the nature of 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. The Society then appoints an independent panel of experts and patient representatives to adjudicate the submissions based on the Society's selection criteria. 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. Research may also be used to inform developments in health system and practice, for example outlining hurdles to accessing care or improving outcome.

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 €1.0m fund relating to research is held to protect currently committed research programmes from future unexpected variations in income. The time horizon on research programmes is typically three to five years.

	Opening Balance as at 01/01/2021 €'000	Income/ Expenditure 2021 €'000	Transfers 2021 €'000	Closing Balance as at 31/12/2021 €'000
Research	1,000	-	-	1,000

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 01/01/2021 €'000	Income 2021 €'000	Expenditure 2021 €'000	Transfers 2021 €'000	Closing Balance as at 31/12/2021 €'000
Breast cancer	3	672	(675)	-	-
Prostate cancer	-	51	(51)	-	-
Travel2Care grants (State)	383	350	(410)	-	323
Research	43	1,509	(1,499)	-	53
Nursing	-	1,271	(1,271)	-	-
Paediatric cancer	-	1	(1)	-	-
Survivorship	-	87	(72)	-	15
Cancer Information Services	61	-	(39)	-	22
Total	490	3,941	(4,018)	-	413

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 Nurseline and Daffodil Centres.

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

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

8. Analysis of Charitable Funds (continued)

Survivorship: to fund a support network of cancer survivors through annual conferences, peer-to-peer educational and wellbeing programmes in affiliated cancer support centres, funding counselling for survivors, providing patient transport through Volunteer Drivers programme.

Cancer Information Services: to fund the provision of the Society's online platform in order to enhance the Society's ability to disseminate cancer related information.

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 01/01/2021 €'000	Income 2021 €'000	Expenditure 2021 €'000	Transfers 2021 €'000	Gains 2021 €'000	Closing Balance as at 31/12/2021 €'000
General fund	27,942	22,646	(19,037)	-	891	32,442

d) Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Restricted Funds €'000	Designated Unrestricted Funds €'000	General Unrestricted Funds €'000	Total 2021 €'000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	8,824	8,824
Current assets	413	1,000	30,722	32,135
Current and long-term liabilities	-	-	(7,104)	(7,104)
Total	413	1,000	32,442	33,855

In respect of prior year:

	Restricted Funds €'000	Designated Unrestricted Funds €'000	General Unrestricted Funds €'000	Total 2020 €'000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	9,135	9,135
Current assets	490	1,000	24,599	26,089
Current and long-term liabilities	-	-	(5,792)	(5,792)
Total	490	1,000	27,942	29,432

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

9. Net Income for the Financial Year

	2021 €'000	2020 €'000
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation	441	444
Auditor's remuneration:		
– Audit of financial statements	31	29
– Other assurance services	5	5
– Tax advisory services	3	4
– Other non-audit services	31	96
Directors' remuneration	-	-
Operating lease charge	685	594

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:

	2021 Number	2020 Number
Charitable activities	55	56
Charitable activities – night nursing	46	46
Fundraising	29	25
Charity shops	30	28
Support	31	27
Total	191	182

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 2021 207 (2020: 194) nurses were employed for at least one night by the Society with an average of 89 nurses working each week (2020: 80). This equates to 46 (2020: 46) nurses on a full-time equivalent basis.

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2021 €'000	2020 €'000
Salaries	9,708	9,910
Social welfare costs	1,011	918
DC pension scheme employer contributions (Note 20)	463	434
Permanent health, life assurance and DC pension scheme costs	169	185
Total	11,351	11,447

There were no redundancy costs in 2021 (2020: €357,163 relating to eight people).

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

	2021 Number	2020 Number
€60,000 – €70,000	11	8
€70,001 – €80,000	6	2
€80,001 – €90,000	1	2
€90,001 – €100,000	4	3
€100,001 – €110,000	1	1
€110,001 – €120,000	1	1
€120,001 – €130,000	-	-
€130,001 – €140,000	-	-
€140,001 – €150,000	1	-
> €150,001	-	-

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 2021 was €726,341 (2020: €733,367).

In 2021 the CEO was paid a salary of €131,349 (2020: €110,367 due to maternity leave and voluntary pay cut) and a car allowance of €10,000 (2020: €7,910). The Society contributed 20% (2020: 15%) 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 2021 the Society made payments of €Nil (2020: €Nil) in relation to out-of-pocket expenses.

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

12. Tangible Assets

	Freehold Premises	Fixtures & Fittings	Motor Vehicles	Furniture & Equipment	Computer Equipment & Software	Total
	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
Cost:						
At 01/01/2021	13,283	237	19	646	1,494	15,679
Additions	-	30	-	1	99	130
Disposals	-	(8)	-	(62)	(21)	(91)
At 31/12/2021	13,283	259	19	585	1,572	15,718
Depreciation:						
At 01/01/2021	4,462	176	19	560	1,327	6,544
Charge for financial year	265	12	-	31	133	441
Disposals	-	(8)	-	(62)	(21)	(91)
At 31/12/2021	4,727	180	19	529	1,439	6,894
Net book amounts:						
At 31/12/2021	8,556	79	-	56	133	8,824
Net book amounts:						
At 31/12/2020	8,821	61	-	86	167	9,135

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 2021 was €13,000 (2020: €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

	2021 €'000	2020 €'000
At 1 January	7,210	6,630
Gain/(loss) on investments	891	545
Investment income	106	91
Management fees	(65)	(56)
At 31 December	8,142	7,210

The funds are held in the following classes of investments:

	2021 €'000	2020 €'000
Cash and cash equivalents	243	584
Listed investments	7,737	6,465
Other investments	162	161
Total	8,142	7,210

	2021 €	2020 €
Investment in Subsidiary (Note 23):		
At 1 January	1	1
Impairment loss	-	-
At 31 December	1	1

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 investment is supported by its underlying net assets. The net assets of Irish Cancer Society Research Limited were €3 in 2021 (2020: €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. Assets Held for Sale

	31/12/2021 €'000	31/12/2020 €'000
Balance at 1 January	-	510
Bequeathed property additions	-	-
Bequeathed property disposals	-	(510)
Impairment	-	-
Cost to sale	-	-
Balance at 31 December	-	-

15. Debtors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021 €'000	2020 €'000
Trade and other debtors	326	783
Accrued income	575	696
221+ support group balance due	1	-
Prepayments	446	393
Total	1,348	1,872

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 By Guarantee.

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

16. Creditors

Amounts falling due within one year:

	2021 €'000	2020 €'000
Trade and other creditors	489	549
Accruals	532	682
221+ support group funds held in trust	-	5
Payroll taxes	286	283
Instalments due on research and services grants payable	2,639	1,991
Total	3,946	3,510

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

Amounts falling due after more than one year:

	2021 €'000	2020 €'000
Instalments due under research and services grants payable	3,158	2,282

17. Grant Commitments and Provisions

	31/12/2021 €'000	31/12/2020 €'000
Balance at 1 January	4,273	3,694
New grants awarded	4,012	3,010
Grants refunded	(39)	(88)
Grants disbursed	(2,449)	(2,343)
Balance at 31 December	5,797	4,273

Classified as:

Due within 1 year	2,639	1,991
Due after 1 year	3,158	2,282
Balance at 31 December	5,797	4,273

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

18. Financial Instruments

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

	2021 €'000	2020 €'000
Financial Assets		
Measured at fair value through profit or loss		
Current asset listed investments (see Note 13)	8,142	7,210
Measured at undiscounted amount receivable		
Trade and other debtors (see Note 15)	326	783
Total	8,468	7,993
Financial Liabilities		
Measured at undiscounted amount payable		
Trade and other payables (see Note 16)	6,286	4,827

The Society's income, expense, gains and losses in respect of financial instruments are summarised below:

	2021 €'000	2020 €'000
Fair value gains and (losses)		
On financial assets measured at fair value through statement of financial activity	891	545

19. Cash Flow Statement

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

	2021 €'000	2020 €'000
Net income for the financial year	4,423	2,033
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	441	444
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	-
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	1,312	938
Decrease in stock	(35)	(169)
(Increase)/decrease in assets held for sale	-	510
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	525	(622)
Deposit interest	-	(1)
Cash generated by operations	6,666	3,133

b) Net debt

The Society had no borrowings or obligations under finance leases as at 31 December 2021 (2020: none).

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

20. 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 €463,394 (2020: €434,325) during the financial year. The amount outstanding at the financial year end was €91,029 (2020: €77,938). The outstanding balances are held on the Balance Sheet under creditors.

21. 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.

22. 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:

	2021 €'000	2020 €'000
Within one year	589	562
Between one and five years	1,546	1,720
More than five years	240	389
Total	2,375	2,671

At 31 December the Society has total rental income under operating leases in relation to a premises rented out:

	2021 €'000	2020 €'000
Within one year	-	2
Between one and five years	-	-
More than five years	-	-
Total	-	2

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

23. 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 2021 and has insignificant net assets, consolidated financial statements have not been prepared.

24. Related Parties

There were no related party transactions in 2021.

25. Comparatives

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

26. Post Balance Sheet Events

There have been no events subsequent to the year-end that require any adjustment to, or additional disclosure in, the 2021 financial statements.

27. Political Donations

The Society made no political donations during 2021.

28. Approval of Financial Statements

These financial statements were approved by the board on 30 June 2022.

Reference and administrative details

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
Andrew Craig (resigned 01 July 2021)
Kieran Crowley
Prof. Liam Grogan
Brid Horan
Dr. Cormac Kilty
Irene O’Gorman
Ger Penny
Alex White
Allan Kearns (appointed 01 July 2021)
Dr. Mary Canavan (appointed 08 September 2021)

Chair

Brid Horan

Chief Executive

Averil Power

Company Secretary

Conor King (resigned 04 March 2022)
Emma Browne (appointed 04 March 2022)

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

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