

Pre-Budget Submission 2023

Cut the Costs for cancer patients

1 Alleviating the financial and psychological burden of cancer

- Abolish inpatient charges; end the practice of debt collectors' pursuit of cancer patients (Estimated cost €30m).
- Reduce car parking charges for patients in public hospitals (Estimated cost €5.1m).
- Provide medical cards to all cancer patients upon diagnosis.
- Abolish prescription charges for medical card holders.
- Maintain the Drug Payment Scheme cap at €80 per month (Estimated cost €21.1m), and €72 per month for single-headed households (Estimated cost €5.2m).
- Expand the Household Benefits Package to include those with a cancer diagnosis.
- Broaden the criteria for Partial Capacity Benefit, increasing security for patients and survivors returning to work.
- Fund fertility treatment for cancer patients and survivors.
- Complete the funding of psycho-oncology posts across the designated cancer centres.

2 Supporting cancer services post-pandemic

- Address the impact of system backlogs and future demand on cancer services (Estimated cost €15m).
- Increase investment in the National Cancer Strategy (Estimated cost €30m).

Some of this funding must be targeted towards the following:

- Fully resourcing the Programme for Government commitments on eHealth.
- Providing a funding stream for a dedicated cancer infrastructure.
- Investment in sufficient healthcare staffing.
- Ensuring comprehensive, sufficiently resourced national screening services.
- Sustained, ring-fenced State investment in clinical trials.
- The development of a world-class cancer genetics service.

The full resourcing of the following must be prioritised in Budget 2023 for:

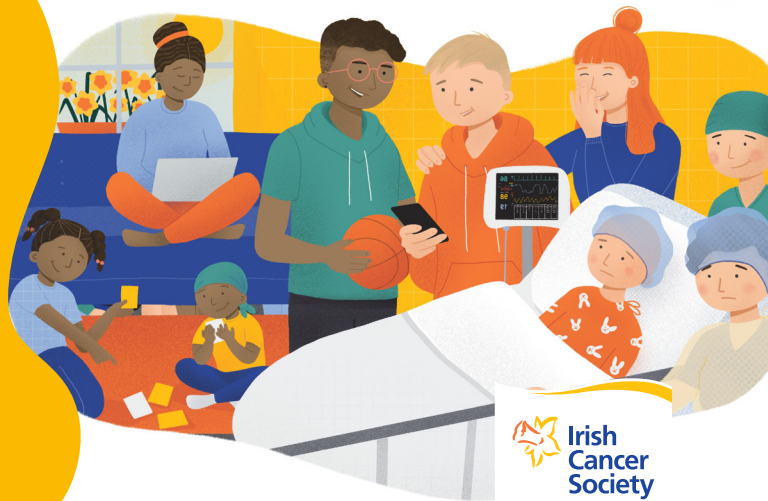
- Lymphoedema Model of Care and National Lymphoedema Clinical Guidelines.
- A permanent funding stream for endoscopy services (Estimated cost: €11m).
- The full resourcing of Sláintecare.

3 Prevention & Future Proofing

- Increase the excise duty on a packet of cigarettes and roll-your-own tobacco products; provide greater supports to smokers to help them quit.
- Fund the HPV catch-up programme for all those who missed out on receiving the vaccine in secondary school and those up to the age of 25, including males.
- Full funding of the National Skin Cancer Prevention Plan.
- Fund radon-testing kits; cover remediation costs in high-risk areas.
- Commit 20% of the transport capital budget in walking and cycling infrastructure (approx. €360m per annum).

Irish Cancer Society

Supporting Children, Adolescents and Young Adults (CAYA) with Cancer



1 Provide Financial Supports to Families

Extend the Domiciliary Care Allowance to 16 and 17 year olds (Estimated cost €30 m).

Provide a State allowance for families to cover the financial impact of childhood cancer.

Waive or significantly reduce hospital car parking charges for families attending appointments.

Provide lifelong medical cards for young people with cancer.

Provide a fund for families who require cancer treatment abroad.

2 Close the Care Gap

Continue to invest in cancer care innovation for young people through research.

Fully fund the psycho-oncology model of care for young people with cancer and their families.

Fund the implementation of the NCCP Adolescents and Young Adults (AYA) Framework.

Invest in the expansion of the genomics division of cancer care in young people (Estimated cost €1.4 m).

3 Promote quality of life initiatives in young cancer survivors

Invest in long-term supports for young people going back to school or work after cancer.

Fund practical supports to AYA cancer survivors returning to work.

Fund initiatives addressing the survivorship needs of young people surviving cancer.

4 Fully fund palliative care and end of life care for young people

Fully fund the Palliative Care Models for young people with cancer.

Fund bereavement support for families with children and young people who have died of cancer.

These CAYA budget asks are also supported by:

