



**We.  
Won't.  
Stop.**

Annual Report  
2024



**We won't stop** until fewer people get cancer and everyone survives a diagnosis.

**We won't stop** researching better treatments and detection methods.

**We won't stop** providing a listening ear on our free support line.

**We won't stop** fundraising for services that provide the best care possible.

**We won't stop** advocating for the needs of cancer patients and their families.

**We. Won't. Stop.**

Joe

Read Joe Woods' story on page

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Linda

Read Linda Wilson's story on page

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Margaret & Sinéad

Read Margaret & Sinéad Walsh's story on page

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# Vision, mission and values

Conán Byrne &  
Traolach Hand Codd

## Vision

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

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

## Mission

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

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

## Values

### We are compassionate and caring.

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

### We are inclusive.

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

### We demand excellence from ourselves and others.

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

### We value collaboration.

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

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

### We are accountable and transparent.

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

### We support sustainability.

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





Diarmuid Hughes, Irene Summer and Tony Kieran from Mastercard

## Who we are

**We are a community of patients, survivors, volunteers, supporters, health and social care professionals and researchers. Together we are transforming the experiences and outcomes of people affected by cancer through our advocacy, support services and research**

### Our history

The Irish Cancer Society was created 10 October 1963 by Irish GP Austin Darragh. Prof Darragh was inspired to organise the Society, then known as the Conquer Cancer Campaign, after learning that 100 Irish people were dying each year from non-melanoma skin cancer, a disease that can be easily treated if found early.

Since 1963 the Society has grown into the national cancer charity in Ireland, providing information about cancer prevention, detection, treatment and support.

In 1988 Prof Darragh led the first Daffodil Day in Ireland, inspired by the campaign in Canada. Daffodil Day has been held every year since and raises a large portion of the yearly funds required for the Society to carry out its mission.

The daffodil became the official logo of the Irish Cancer Society in 2001, and has since become an international symbol for cancer and hope in the United States, Australia, Canada, and beyond.

Irish Cancer Society CEO Averil Power and Chair of the Irish Cancer Society board Bríd Horan.



## Bríd & Averil

### Message from our Chair and CEO

2024 was a year of record-breaking impact for the Irish Cancer Society. We supported more patients than ever, fought for—and won—policy changes, and expanded our vital services to meet growing demand.

#### Highlights in 2024 include:

Over 1,300 Irish Cancer Society volunteers drove 2.3 million kilometres bringing over 2,550 cancer patients to and from over 26,500 procedures.

Our free nationwide counselling service saw an increase of 8% to over 16,000 sessions. Our Support Line, which provides confidential advice, support and information from a Cancer Nurse to anyone affected by cancer, also saw an 8% increase in contacts to 10,700. While a further 17,300 conversations took place with our Cancer Nurses in the Society's Daffodil Centres nationwide. Over 6,000 nights of end-of-life nursing care were provided to over 1,700 patients in their own home.

The Society successfully lobbied the government to adequately fund the National Cancer Strategy in Budget 2025 and successfully campaigned for legislation allowing women undergoing treatment for cancer to pause their maternity leave for up to 52 weeks.

This progress was only possible because of the dedication and commitment of our volunteers, fundraisers and amazing donors. The Irish Cancer Society is a community-focused organisation. And we rely on the community's generosity to continue to save

lives and improve the lives of people affected by cancer in Ireland. Only about 5% of our income comes from the state each year; everything else is raised from the public, corporate partners, supporters and charity shops around the country.

It's a privilege to serve the Irish Cancer Society and experience how a community of patients, survivors, volunteers, supporters, donors, partners, clinicians, researchers, and our staff can bring about real change.

2025 brings new challenges and opportunities. We will double down on advocacy, making cancer a top priority for a new Government. We will continue to invest in life-changing research. We will continue to provide vital services for cancer patients and their families. We will continue to offer services and grants to children and young adults with cancer. We will continue to work to secure world-class treatment, care, and support for every patient in Ireland.

We won't stop.

**Bríd Horan**  
Chair

**Averil Power**  
CEO



# Our impact in 2024

26,500

Drives to and from cancer treatment provided

📈 Up 20% from 2023

2,550

Total patients driven to appointments

📈 Up 14% from 2023

2,000

Participants in Patient Education

📈 Up 7% from 2023

10,700

Freephone Support Line calls and emails answered

📈 Up 8% from 2023

1,950

Health checks conducted at our early detection roadshow

📈 Up 5% from 2023

16,050

Counselling sessions provided

📈 Up 8% from 2023<sup>1</sup>

1.6m

visits to cancer.ie

📈 Up 6% from 2023

625

New volunteers recruited

📈 Up 25% from 2023<sup>2</sup>

284.3k

Social media followers

📈 Up 2% from 2023

32

Cancer research grants provided

📈 Up 10% from 2023

2,800

New patients participating in cancer trials recorded by Cancer Trials Ireland

📈 Up 51% from 2023<sup>3</sup>

515

New volunteer drivers recruited

📈 Up 19% from 2023

## Notes

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

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

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

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



VHI Mini Marathon  
2024 Participants

Shashank Srinivas,  
Irish Cancer Society  
AICRI Research Analyst







Leave our  
Leave patient  
advocates Emma  
McGuinness, Erica  
Tierney and Mary  
Canavan pictured  
with Irish Cancer  
Society CEO Averil  
Power and Minister  
Roderic O’Gorman.

# Highlights 2024

## Daffodil Day 2024

Daffodil Day 2024 was a huge success, raising an incredible €5.6million. Our supporters’ presence in every corner of Ireland, ensured every town and village turned daffodil yellow to raise millions of euros and give hope to people affected by cancer across Ireland.

## BRCSI Lung Cancer Research Partnership

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer-related deaths in Ireland and worldwide, killing more people every year than breast, prostate and colorectal cancer combined. In October 2024, the Irish Cancer Society announced it was funding the largest single investment in lung cancer in Ireland’s history. The €4.9 million Beaumont RCSI Irish Cancer Society Lung Outreach Programme, will run for six years and focus on early detection, advanced diagnostics, and innovative treatments.

## Leave our Leave

After two years of campaigning, the Irish Cancer Society celebrated the enactment of the Maternity Protection (Amendment) act in October 2024. This legislation ensures that women undergoing treatment for cancer, or other serious illnesses, can pause their maternity leave for up to 52 weeks. The #LeaveOurLeave campaign was spearheaded by three women: Erica Tierney, Mary Canavan and Emma McGuinness, who all underwent cancer treatment during their maternity leave. Their willingness to speak up means women with cancer or other serious illness will no longer miss important bonding time with their babies.



Margaret and Sinéad  
Walsh, cancer survivors  
from Co Mayo pictured  
at the launch of Daffodil  
Day 2024.

## Budget 2025

Throughout 2024, The Irish Cancer Society lobbied the Government, highlighting the need for additional investment in cancer services. In recognition, the Government committed to extra funding of €33m to fight cancer in 2025, rising to a full year investment of €46m in 2026. This additional investment will deliver improvements in prevention, screening, diagnostics, treatment, psychological supports and community-based services.

Full-year cancer supports in Budget 2025 include:

- €15.7m for staffing improvements under the National Cancer Strategy.
- €5.5m for local Cancer Support Centres around the country.
- €1.3m to expand the acute oncology nursing service to help cancer patients avoid Emergency Departments.
- €2m for standardised provision of post-mastectomy supports.
- €3.8m for expand Bowel Screening to ages 58 to 70.
- €14m to provide access to new cancer drugs.
- €400,000 for specialist registrar radiology roles.
- €700,000 for six additional Advanced Practitioner posts for cancer care.
- €2.9m to enable the Breast Check programme to meet increasing demand and reduce screening intervals.

## Commitments in Programme for Government

The Irish Cancer Society kept the needs of cancer patients on the agenda throughout the General Election campaign. The provisions in the draft Programme for Government, produced after the election that relate to cancer care reflected this work.

These included:

- The development of multi-annual funding approach for the health service, which will include the National Cancer Strategy.
- Legislating for the Right To Be Forgotten, requiring insurers to disregard a cancer diagnosis where treatment ended more than 7 years prior to application.
- Investing in Palliative Care to achieve full national coverage of hospice and community services.
- Reinstating the Laura Brennan Catch-Up Programme which expired in Jan 2024.
- Extending the Acute Haematology Nursing Service, an effective Emergency Department avoidance measure for cancer patients in active treatment.
- We won’t stop raising these commitments with Government to ensure the needs of cancer patients, survivors and their families are met.

## “Your Health Matters” Roadshow

In 2024, our nurse-led community outreach initiative continued to provide free health checks in shopping centres in areas around the country. The Roadshow aims to reduce people’s risk of cancer and improve early detection rates. In 2024, the team had a record-breaking year, visiting shopping centres and corporate settings in 19 counties over 49 days in 26 locations. Our nurses conducted over 1,950 free health checks and had over 27,300 engagements or conversations with the public.



Cancer Survivor  
Victoria O’Meade,  
wife Sarah O’Meade  
and son Lucas



# Report of the Board

## Our priorities

### Healthy living

**Fewer preventable cancers**

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

### Catching cancer early

**More cancers caught early**

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

### Treating cancer

**World-class cancer treatment for everyone**

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

### Living well

**Living well after treatment**

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

### End-of-life care

**Holistic support for people dying from cancer**

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

Chloe Staunton, volunteering with the Irish Cancer Society at the VHI Mini Marathon 2024





# Strategic review

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

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

**Healthy living:** Fewer preventable cancers;

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

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

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

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

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

## Strategic context

We're now past the midway point of our 2020-2025 strategy. While much has changed since the strategy was developed, the core principles remain as relevant as ever. We are dedicated to reaching and supporting more individuals affected by cancer and are working tirelessly to bring forward the day when more people not only survive cancer but thrive after their diagnosis.

2024 was a year where the rising cost of living was reflected in all our work. For cancer patients, who often have reduced income and increased expenses as a result of their diagnosis, the cost-of-living crisis takes a huge additional toll. Patients and families who spoke with our nurses throughout the year reported increased financial pressures. Our funded research on energy costs highlighted heartbreaking situations where patients at end-of-life and their families had difficulty paying bills and affording home heating, some living in homes with issues like damp, mould, condensation and draughts. In light of the many financial pressures on patients and families our Advocacy team highlighted and sought solutions to reduce costs on cancer patients, our Welfare and Supports team provided tailored support to patients, and our Night Nursing team continued their work of providing quality care and support to people in their home in their final days.



Director of Clinical Affairs Amy Nolan, Irish Cancer Society CEO Averil Power and Director of Communications and Advocacy Steve Dempsey at the launch of our 2025 pre-budget submission.

Together we have improved public services for people with cancer and ensured that the Irish Cancer Society is helping more children and adults than ever before through our services, research and advocacy.



Our focus on increasing our reach in communities and underserved areas saw a notable increase through our collaboration with over 170 community organisations, including Outhouse and AKIDWA, a national network of migrant women living in Ireland. These partnerships have been instrumental in extending our reach and impact, allowing us to support a diverse range of communities. We remain dedicated to expanding and enhancing our support offerings to meet the evolving needs of those affected by cancer.

The Society, along with the broader cancer community, has faced significant challenges over the past few years. We highlighted a funding gap of €180 million for the National Cancer Strategy, which has hindered Ireland’s progress in achieving world-class treatment, care, and outcomes for everyone affected by cancer. This underinvestment, compounded by the legacy of the pandemic, underscores the urgent need for increased funding.

In response to our persistent advocacy, supported by cancer survivors and clinicians, the Government has committed an additional €33 million to fund cancer care in 2025, with this amount rising to €46 million in 2026.

2024 also saw the Irish Cancer Society fund a groundbreaking €4.9 million lung cancer research programme led by the Beaumont RCSI Cancer Centre. This initiative represents the largest single investment in lung cancer in Ireland’s history. Additionally, we will pilot a free lung health check for individuals at high risk of lung cancer in North Dublin and Louth. This initiative is expected to save lives among pilot participants and pave the way for a national lung health check programme for everyone at risk.

As we continue to review and adapt our goals for the final year of the strategic cycle, our focus remains steadfast on achieving world-class treatment for everyone. We are committed to advancing early detection, diagnosis, and treatment for every patient. Additionally, we will continue to embed the new services and investments already made, ensuring that these improvements are sustainable and impactful.

While much has changed since the strategy was developed in early 2020, the core principles remain as relevant as ever. We are dedicated to reaching and supporting more individuals affected by cancer and are working tirelessly to bring forward the day when more people not only survive cancer but thrive after their diagnosis.

Achieving our 2024 goals

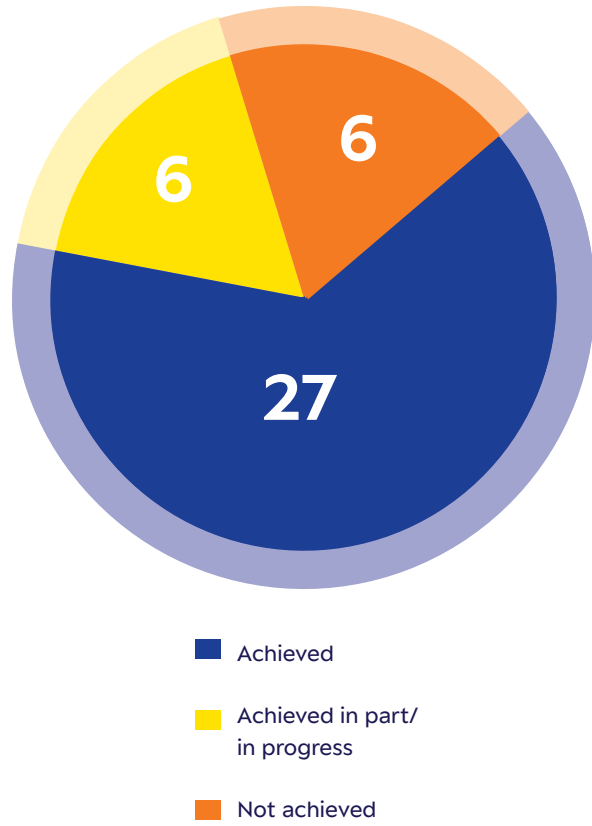
In our annual report 2023, we set 39 new objectives for 2024. Of these, we achieved 27 (69%), 6 (15%) were achieved in part or remain in progress, and 6 (15%) were not achieved. Two objectives set were postponed during 2024, as we decided not to proceed with them in response to the changing context.

Progress made against each of our 2024 objectives is detailed in the following sections of this report, under each of the strategic priorities.

**Objectives achieved:** Where goals are achieved in 2024, we will continue to work to build on this work into 2025 and beyond, until we can reach the day that no-one dies from cancer and everyone has access to world-class treatment, care and support.

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

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



VHI Mini Marathon participants taking part as part of Team Irish Cancer Society.





# Healthy living

## Our Goal

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

## To achieve this

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

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

We will provide advice to those who need it.

## The impact we had in 2024

Making the healthy choice the easy choice is paramount towards living longer, healthier lives.

In 2024, the Irish Cancer Society worked hard to advocate for new policies and legislation to support cancer prevention initiatives through our pre-Budget 2025 and General Election 2024 activities, to bring information to the community and to share with and learn from our European partners.

Over the decades, progress has been hard won with the introduction of the smoking ban in indoor spaces and the decision to include health warnings on alcohol labels. However, much work remains to ensure that fewer people smoke cigarettes or use nicotine inhaling products. Importantly, we must ensure that young people do not engage in these habits in the first place.

In November 2024, legislation to raise the legal age for the sale of tobacco products to 21 passed through the Oireachtas, making Ireland the first EU country to do so. The Irish Cancer Society, as members of the Tobacco 21 Alliance under the Irish Cancer Prevention Network, have been advocating for this legislative change since 2021.

The Irish Cancer Society's 2025 Pre-Budget Submission called on the Government to *"tax e-cigarettes and introduce restrictions on e-cigarette flavours, packaging, point of sale display, use in public areas and social media marketing."* In Budget 2025, a new tax of 50c per millilitre of e-liquid in electronic vaping devices was announced. In addition, Minister Stephen Donnelly

brought proposals to Cabinet in September 2024 to ban the sale of disposable vapes, restrict flavours and packaging as well as point of sale advertising. Those proposals are now being drafted with the Office of the Attorney General.

We worked on many fronts to raise awareness of the HPV Vaccination and to call for the Laura Brennan HPV Vaccination Catch-Up Programme to be reinstated to all people under the age of 25. We participated in the advisory group for the development of the HSE's Ireland's Cervical Cancer Elimination Plan, with the aim of reducing the number of cervical cancers diagnosed in Ireland by 2040. Furthermore, we partnered with colleagues across Europe on the EU4Health PROTECT EUROPE Programme to champion a gender-neutral vaccination for HPV. As part of this project, which ran across 2023 and 2024, we conducted research to learn about practices in communicating messages on HPV vaccination, providing insights from the Irish and UK contexts. We also contributed our expertise and knowledge to the project by developing and delivering a Masterclass on Single Dose HPV Vaccination and sharing our insights on an expert panel at the PROTECT Europe showcase event in 2024.

Communities require clean air and active travel infrastructure as minimum building blocks for healthy living. We have been working within the Climate and Health Alliance to advocate for the launch of the Clean Air Act, access to retrofitting to support people in energy hardship, and the allocation of annual capital budget for transport on walking, cycling and accessible infrastructure and public transport.

**The key to living longer healthier lives is making the healthy choice the easy one.**





Achieving against our objectives

OBJECTIVE	RESULTS	PROGRESS
Work as part of the Cervical Cancer Elimination Partnership to support the development of an action plan to eliminate cervical cancer by 2040.	The Cervical Cancer Elimination Action Plan was launched by the HSE in November 2024.	Achieved
Advocate for the full enactment of the Public Health (Tobacco Products and Nicotine Inhaling Products) Bill 2023.	Enacted in December 2023.	Achieved
Continue to raise awareness of and advocate for regulation of flavoured nicotine products and novel tobacco products.	Raised awareness regarding regulation including high profile television pieces along with submission to Department of Health.	Achieved
Enable and support people to make healthy choices to reduce cancer risk through community-level talks.	As part of our integrated cancer awareness early detection and prevention programmes, we have delivered 70 presentations in community settings in 2024 (up 71% on 2023), alongside our Roadshows and workplace programmes.	Achieved
Advocate for changes at local level that will make it easier for people to get active – including more walking and cycling facilities, green areas and age-friendly exercise spaces.	Launched recommendations from co-funded research looking at the co-benefits of climate change and mitigation policies. Continued to make recommendations as member of the Climate and Health Alliance.	Achieved

Our objectives for 2025

- Advocate for proposed legislation on vaping and eCigarettes to be enacted.
- Raise awareness of health impacts of unhealthy/processed foods and advocate for changes to how unhealthy/processed foods are marketed.
- Continue to highlight barriers to healthcare across Ireland via our healthcare access survey.
- Educate people about how to prevent cancer through community-level talks.

We delivered 70 presentations in community settings in 2024 (up 71% on 2023), alongside our Roadshows and workplace programmes.

The Republic of Ireland Women's National Football Team members Courtney Brosnan and Leanne Kiernan.



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





Joe Woods  
Cancer Survivor

# Joe

**"During my diagnosis I found great solace in the support of the Irish Cancer Society. I spoke to some of the Irish Cancer Society Nurses during my illness, and it was good to know that I wasn't the only one going through it"**

## **My world was turned upside down in 2019. Just months after my wife, Katie suffered a stroke aged 26, I received the devastating news that I had cancer.**

My symptoms began as a mild pain in my back, which progressively got worse and moved to my chest. When they told me I had Hodgkin's lymphoma I couldn't believe it. I was only 30 years old, so cancer was the last thing that was on my mind.

Two days later I began six months of chemotherapy treatment.

That very same week, we found out that Katie was pregnant with our first child. That was bittersweet, but it certainly helped me to maintain a positive outlook during treatment.

Chemotherapy was pretty tough, it really took its toll on my body, I put on a lot of weight and lost my hair. However, I did my best to remain positive and thoughts of our first baby really got me through it. I also set up a Facebook page to document my illness and to provide hope and support to others in a similar situation

We were over the moon in August 2020, when we received the incredible news that I was cancer free and now in remission. Our beautiful baby girl, Dayna was born in October 2020.

I'm doing well now and have returned to work as a Prison Officer and am enjoying getting back into fitness. I go for check-ups every year or so, each time I'm hoping for the best.

We recently had another beautiful baby girl, named Lilah in December 2024!

During my diagnosis I found great solace in the support of the Irish Cancer Society. I spoke to some of the Irish Cancer Society Nurses during my illness, and it was good to know that I wasn't the only one going through it, to have someone to speak to and know that I wasn't alone, because opening up and talking to people really helps, it makes it so much easier.

Since I was diagnosed in 2020, I have lost both my godparents, a cousin, and a good friend to cancer. Thankfully I am here to tell my story, unfortunately many others they don't get that chance. Life can change so quickly for people, and we just don't know what is around the corner. So now I try to be as happy as I can be all the time. We just have to enjoy life every day because it can be taken from us so very quickly.

**Joe Woods  
Cancer Survivor**





# Catching cancer early

## Our Goal

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

## To achieve this

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

We will give people the best chance of surviving cancer.

## The impact we had in 2024

Our 'Your Health Matters' Roadshows continued to grow in 2024, thanks to the unwavering support from our volunteers, staff and local communities. We held 49 Roadshow events across 19 counties throughout the year. These events, held in shopping centres and other high-traffic community locations, bring cancer awareness and early detection directly to people where they are. At the Roadshow, people can learn more about cancer signs and symptoms and take part in a free nurse-led health check. In 2024, we conducted 1,950 health checks, marking a 5% increase from 2023. As a nurse-led service, aligned with the Society's values, the Roadshow fosters compassionate, open and non-judgemental engagement with the community.

Our efforts in early detection also expanded within workplaces across Ireland. We delivered integrated cancer prevention, awareness and early detection talks and information stands in 65 workplaces nationwide. This included a diverse range of workplaces, both large and small and across all sectors – from Centra, Penneys, Irish Rail, Pfizer, J.P. Morgan, County Councils and Government Departments to name just a few.

Early cancer detection significantly improves the chances of living well post-diagnosis. However, we are all too aware that not everyone in Ireland has the same opportunities to catch cancer early. Our initiatives particularly focus on vulnerable and marginalised populations.

In 2024, we continued our partnership with the Capuchin Day Centre and Men's Sheds to support those who may be homeless or otherwise marginalised. Through this partnership, our nurses conducted 114 health checks for service users. Additionally, we

collaborated with community groups, especially within migrant and new Irish communities, to enhance cancer awareness. Reducing health inequalities and disparities in outcomes remains a key strategic goal for us. We are committed to reaching those who need us most and addressing these inequalities.

Our Daffodil Centre nurses and volunteers around the country also worked to promote our cancer awareness messages and campaigns among hospital staff, patients and visitors. They spoke to 14,500 people at awareness events throughout the year, supporting cancer awareness days and months, as well as raising general awareness of cancer signs and symptoms, and promoting cancer screening services.

Throughout the year, we also ran awareness campaigns targeting common cancers and those more likely to be detected late. Our work continued to generate a significant impact. For instance, our prostate cancer campaign in September led to a 50% increase in visits to prostate cancer awareness pages compared to the same period in 2023. Similarly, our Breast Cancer Awareness campaign garnered 146,000 page views, a 24% increase from the 2023 campaign.

In 2024, we funded research on cancer screening and early detection, such as our support for the inaugural cancer genetics counselling meeting which aimed to bring together experts in cancer genetics to discuss the importance of genetic counselling research and practice. We also announced our partnership with researchers in Beaumont RCSI to establish the Beaumont RCSI Irish Cancer Society Lung Health Check, a first-of-its-kind pilot clinical trial in Ireland to enable the early detection of lung cancer.

# 1,950

Health checks conducted at our early detection roadshow



Achieving against our objectives

OBJECTIVE	RESULTS	PROGRESS
Increase the reach of the Roadshows, and deliver at least 50 days in 2024.	Roadshows operated for 49 days in 2024, same as 2023. This was just below target, as the team also delivered community and workplace awareness early detection activities instead.  Reach grew with 5% more health checks conducted (compared with 2023).	Achieved in part
Continue the Capuchin Centre partnership, and use learnings to continue to expand this service.	We continued to deliver cancer awareness, early detection and support outreach in the Capuchin Centre in 2024. A decision has been made not to expand this service currently.	Achieved
Continue to deliver integrated cancer awareness public campaigns, and people reached through this work	Delivered five key cancer awareness campaigns to highlight the importance of early detection of the 5 most prevalent cancers in Ireland. Trialled new platforms to engage harder-to-reach audiences.	Achieved
Commence work across the Irish Cancer Society/ BRCSI lung cancer research programme to improve early detection of lung cancer.	We worked closely with Beaumont and RCSI to establish the Lung Cancer Health Check. Lung assessments and scans will take place within mobile scanning units across the northeast in 2025.	Achieved
Develop additional workplace cancer awareness resources and increase reach.	Resources were reviewed and updated. Increased reach delivering 70 presentations to over 4,300 people in corporate settings in 2024 (up 71% on 2023).	Achieved

We delivered five key cancer awareness campaigns to highlight the importance of early detection of the five most prevalent cancers in Ireland.



Our objectives for 2025

- Continue to deliver the Roadshow initiative to reach communities and deliver at least 40 days in 2025 .
- Continue to deliver integrated cancer awareness public campaigns, and reach people through this work.
- Recruit and train cancer awareness volunteers within communities to support awareness activities and campaigns.
- Commence the Irish Cancer Society BRCSI lung health check to improve early detection of lung cancer.
- Fund world-class cancer research programmes specifically focused on improving the early detection of cancer.
- Continue to develop and distribute new workplace cancer awareness resources and extend our reach.

Support Line  
Nurse Edel  
Brannagan



Daffodil Centre  
Nurse Linda  
Wilson

# Linda

**"I'm so proud of the work that my colleagues and I do, making a difference in the lives of cancer patients and their families every day across the country."**

**I first joined the Irish Cancer Society in 2020. The Society's values, and their unwavering dedication to helping every person affected by cancer is what made me want to join the organisation.**

I work as a Daffodil Centre nurse in St James's Hospital. In my role I guide patients and families through their cancer experience, by providing information, advice, emotional and practical support. As well as offering support, I also signpost patients and their families to services that are available within the hospital, and Irish Cancer Society services. Through the Daffodil Centre, we offer educational programmes for people going through cancer. For patients starting their treatment we facilitate group chemotherapy education. This helps people to understand what to expect from their treatment, how to manage side effects and what supports are available.

For those who have finished their cancer treatment or are on maintenance treatment, we offer a programme called LACES – Life and Cancer Enhancing Survivorship. This can help patients to adjust to life post treatment, live well, and feel their best, physically and emotionally.

One of my favourite parts of the job is just how rewarding it is. As a Daffodil Centre nurse, I'm in a privileged position where I help, support, advocate for and empower people affected by cancer throughout their cancer experience.

We're often the first person someone speaks to after they've heard those two words 'it's cancer'. We're here to answer questions, to give advice, but most importantly we're a listening ear for when people simply need to chat.

I'm so proud of the work that my colleagues and I do, making a difference in the lives of cancer patients and their families every day across the country. It's an incredibly rewarding job helping people navigate all the uncertainty that a cancer diagnosis can bring.

**Linda Wilson**  
**Cancer Nurse, Daffodil Centre**





# Treating cancer

## Our Goal

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

## To achieve this

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

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

## The impact we had in 2024

Throughout 2024, we continued to experience significant demand for our core services, which provide crucial support to individuals affected by cancer, particularly during treatment.

Our Support Line and Daffodil Centre nurses play an essential role in assisting patients, family members, and friends affected by cancer across the country. Beyond offering cancer information and advice, our nurses provide a compassionate listening ear and a safe space for individuals to express their fears, concerns, and worries. In 2024, 28,000 support conversations took place via phone, online, and in person with our Support Line or Daffodil Centre cancer nurses, benefiting thousands of people.

Our Transport Services also saw substantial growth in 2024. This nationwide service offers patients free door-to-door transport to their chemotherapy and related appointments, alleviating the practical and financial burdens of treatment. The service is open to all and completely free of charge for patients, whether adults or children. In 2024, we conducted 26,500 drives, a 20% increase from the previous year, building on a similar rise in 2023 compared to 2022. Most of this transport is provided by volunteer drivers, with additional support from taxis when necessary. Over 1,300 drivers volunteered throughout 2024, and we are immensely grateful for their dedication.

**"The treatment I am on now is a fully approved drug, and essentially based off my initial cancer trial drug, which is incredible. I am back working and living a relatively normal life. Thank God for science."**

Patrick, Cancer Trial participant

In 2024, we continued our important work with the 221+ Group who championed patient advocacy by developing a new strategic plan that reinforces our commitment to women's health and amplifying the patient voice.

A new grant agreement was successfully negotiated with the Department of Health, ensuring ongoing support for members.

We made significant strides in educating and engaging our community about cancer. We completed a pre-treatment series of patient education videos, both new and upgraded. This series includes our 'What is Cancer' video series, which provides new nurse-led overviews of the most common cancers in Ireland.

We also published five brand-new patient booklets including three new cancer types for our range, one specifically designed for young people with cancer, and another addressing sex, sexuality, and cancer. These resources offer reliable and practical advice to patients and their families, helping them navigate their cancer journey.

Additionally, the Society has invested in new cancer research across the country in 2024 to develop new and improved cancer treatments. The Society made 10 awards, worth €1.5 million, to researchers working toward our Treating Cancer goal. This includes research in Trinity College Dublin exploring ways to improve immunotherapy for the treatment of paediatric glioblastoma, an aggressive form of childhood brain cancer.

The Irish Cancer Society is proud to continue to support Cancer Trials Ireland with an annual investment of €1 million. 2024 has seen an increase in the number of patients in Ireland participating in cancer clinical studies thanks in part to this support. The very first patient-led study in Cancer Trials Ireland was completed in 2024 and supported by the society. This was led by a member of the Cancer Trials Ireland patient representative group aimed to get key insights into the lived experience of patients with metastatic breast cancer.

# 10,700

Freephone  
Support Line  
calls and emails  
answered



## Achieving against our objectives

OBJECTIVE	RESULTS	PROGRESS
Increase the number of support conversations conducted by our nurses on the Support Line and in Daffodil Centres by 10%.	Across both services, 28,000 support conversations took place in 2024, same as 2023. There was an increase of 8% for the Support Line with our Daffodil Centres having a slight decline of 4% on 2023.	Not achieved
Increase by 15% the number of patients we support through our Transport Service.	2,500 patients were supported with free drives to treatment through the Transport Services, an increase of 20% on 2023.	Achieved
Increase the areas covered by the volunteer driving service for children and teenagers travelling to CHI Crumlin.	Record demand for our current transport service meant that it was not possible to expand the service further in 2024.	Not achieved
Ensure the delivery of the goals and objectives of our Trinity St JamesSJCI Partnership.	All 4 programmes within the TSJCI partnership were underway in 2024. This included projects focused on clinician-led research, patient partnership, young onset cancers and nurse navigation. All are progressing as planned	Achieved
Complete research to identify the barriers to cancer trials participation in Ireland and identify new actions to increase cancer trial take up.	We commissioned Forvis Mazars to carry out an independent scoping review of the cancer trials landscape in Ireland and have been provided a series of recommendations for implementation in 2025	Achieved
Maintain our partnership with Cancer Trials Ireland and support measures to increase the number of patients on cancer trials.	Over 2,800 new patients joined clinical trials in 2024, up 51% on 2023.	Achieved
Continue to advocate for increases in funding for the National Cancer Strategy and cancer services.	Advocated through appearances at the Joint Committee on Health, through our recommendations ahead of Budget 2025 and our meetings with political parties.	Achieved
Invest in research funding to support our Treating Cancer goal.	€1.5 million in new research funding was invested by the Society against this goal in 2024.	Achieved
Evaluate our pilot support packs programme, and expand to launch and distribute CAYA specific support packs.	We evaluated our support packs pilot programme by obtaining feedback, implementing changes, and developed an ongoing sustainable delivery for both adults and CAYA specific packs.	Achieved
Secure commitments in general election manifestos to increase Government funding for the National Cancer Strategy.	We continued advocacy for National Cancer Strategy multi-annual funding, receiving support in general election manifestos from numerous parties.	Achieved

Irish Cancer Society CEO Averil Power pictured with Sabina Higgins to mark Daffodil Day 2024.

## Our objectives for 2025

- Continue to deliver quality support conversations conducted by our nurses on the Support Line and in Daffodil Centres.
- Ensure the delivery of the goals and objectives of our TSJCI Partnership.
- Maintain our partnership with Cancer Trials Ireland and support measures to increase the number of patients on cancer trials.
- Develop a comprehensive Transport Enhancement Plan focusing on strategy, resourcing, and process improvements while continuing to deliver our Transport service.
- Formulate an advocacy plan for the National Cancer Strategy, prioritising cancer as a key issue for the new Government.
- Collaborate with UCD on the CAYA Advocacy welfare project to research state-funded supports for parents with children with cancer.
- Provide care kits to support families of children with cancer and young adults on their cancer journeys, offering comfort and practical assistance.



Margaret and Sinéad Walsh, cancer survivors.



# Margaret & Sinéad

**“Throughout our cancer diagnoses, the Irish Cancer Society have been there at every step both in Crumlin and since we got home making sure that we have every support, emotionally and financially.”**

## **As a mother, I knew in my heart of hearts – even before the doctors confirmed it – that my 13-year-old daughter, Sinéad, had leukaemia.**

What had started as a sore arm quickly became every parent's worst nightmare. After hearing the news, we were allowed home for just one night. We got home and simply locked the front and back doors; we couldn't face anyone. Telling our family, Sinéad's three siblings and her grandparents, was just heartbreaking.

Sinéad's treatment started the next day. My husband, Brendan and I held Sinéad between us as we walked down the long corridor to the double doors of St John's Ward in Crumlin. It was longer than any marathon.

They started her off on chemotherapy, but she had severe side effects and ended up in ICU. After that, they stopped chemotherapy and started her on immunotherapy.

We couldn't believe it: the following Monday Sinéad was able to get out of bed, albeit very weak, and cracked a joke. The difference in a few days was unbelievable. Our child was back.

Just eight months after Sinéad was diagnosed, I received my own lobular breast cancer diagnosis. My heart sank when I heard the news, but it wasn't really me I was worried about. I remember telling the consultant, 'I don't have time to have breast cancer, I have a sick child to get better'.

Thankfully, Sinéad responded well to her treatment and had a quicker than expected recovery. We were told originally that she would

finish her treatment in January 2025, but the doctors told her during the summer that her end of treatment date would be the 27th September 2024. To say we were shocked and emotional would be an understatement

My cancer was a rare type of breast cancer pleomorphic lobular carcinoma in situ. I'm very lucky it was caught extremely early; I had a mastectomy in March and thankfully I don't need chemotherapy or radiation but am on an aromatase inhibitor for five years. I'm now part of a group called Lobular Ireland whose mission is to raise awareness of lobular breast cancer. Raising awareness has become very important to me as I had never heard of lobular cancer before my diagnosis, and it can be hard to diagnose.

Life is starting to return to normal (whatever that means). I'll be returning to work soon and Sinéad is doing really well now. She recently took part in her school musical and went skiing with her TY class in February.

Throughout our cancer diagnoses, the Irish Cancer Society have been there at every step both in Crumlin and since we got home making sure that we have every support, emotionally and financially. We wouldn't be able to be where we are without them.

**Margaret Walsh**  
Survivor and advocate





# Living well

## Our Goal

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

## To achieve this

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

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

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

## The impact we had in 2024

Throughout 2024 the Society worked across all areas to reduce the emotional, physical, financial and practical burden of cancer.

In 2022, we launched our 'Leave our Leave' campaign, which brought attention to a significant gap in Irish law. Women undergoing cancer treatment were unable to defer their maternity leave, effectively losing their entitlement. This legislative gap impacted up to 60 women annually. After extensive campaigning by affected women, our grassroots advocates, and the entire Irish Cancer Society community, we successfully advocated for change. The Maternity Protection, Employment Equality and Preservation of Certain Records Act 2024, passed in October 2024, now ensures that women undergoing treatment for cancer or other serious illnesses can postpone their maternity leave for up to a year.

**"I did some counselling sessions after my first and second cancer diagnoses. I found it very worthwhile. You don't feel like you're a burden when you're talking to them, there was a sense of freedom when I spoke to them – it was great to have that."**

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

We also expanded our support services for children, teenagers, and young adults affected by cancer. We piloted coaching services for young adults, helping them plan for their future. Our support offerings range from coaching services for young adults to a free creative arts therapy program for children and teenagers. Traditional "talk therapy" isn't always suitable for younger people, but through creative therapies such as music or art, children can express their emotions and process their cancer experience.

Our family and young adult camps continued to thrive in 2024. In collaboration with Barretstown, we provided four camps that supported 330 parents, siblings, children, and young people affected by cancer. These camps provide a vital connection to supports and services, and others experiencing the same challenges.

**"Getting away for a couple of days as a family really lifted our spirits, and it was packed with fun: it's an amazing experience."**

**Róisín, Mum to cancer survivor Tommy(5), speaking about the Irish Cancer Society family camp at Barretstown**

Our direct survivorship services continued in 2024, with 16,000 sessions of counselling delivered through our remote counselling service and our funding of in-person counselling in community cancer support centres around the country. This is up 8% on sessions delivered in 2023.

We continued to fund research that seeks to improve the care and quality of life of people affected by cancer in Ireland, and €1.6 million was invested against the living well goal. This included research to understand the cancer survivorship needs of individuals with physical disabilities. The first phase of our TSJCI Young Onset Cancer Pilot was established in 2024. This aims to provide a dedicated service for people aged 25-50 affected by young onset cancer.



Achieving against our objectives

OBJECTIVE	RESULTS	PROGRESS
Commence the Society-wide roll-out of the Holistic Needs Assessment as a means to provide personal, rounded support to cancer survivors.	Due to capacity challenges regarding technology, we were unable to commence in 2024.	Not achieved
Increase the number of peer support matches by 25%.	Our efforts to increase peer support matches was delayed in 2024 until further service improvements are completed.	Not achieved
Continue to increase the emotional and holistic supports provided to children and teenagers affected by cancer.	We expanded our supports and services including complementary therapies, creative arts, play therapy, family camps, and life coaching, enhancing their well-being and psychosocial support.	Achieved
Maintain pressure on our Leave our Leave campaign to ensure that the Ministerial commitment to implement change is delivered.	In October 2024, the Oireachtas passed the Maternity Protection, Employment Equality and Preservation of Certain Records Act 2024.	Achieved
Secure commitments in the election manifestos to reduce the cost of cancer.	As a result of our general election campaign, commitments to reduce the cost of cancer were included in several manifestos.	Achieved
Continue to invest in survivorship research and research to support our Living Well goal.	€1.6 million was invested in living well priority in 2024 to support 13 cancer survivorship researchers.	Achieved

€1.6 million was invested in 2024 to support 13 cancer survivorship researchers.

Our objectives for 2025

- Continue to deliver emotional and holistic supports to children and teenagers affected by cancer.
- Allocate dedicated funding in 2025 to drive forward survivorship research capacity nationally and continue to support our Living Well goal.
- Strengthen relationships with Cancer Support Centres to enhance service delivery and support.
- Continue to establish the Young Onset programme in TSJCI, which can serve as a model for other cancer types and other institutions for the highest quality of cancer care.
- Develop a model of care for better integration of Irish Cancer Society services within Beaumont RCSI Cancer Centre as part of our institutional partnership.
- Develop a comprehensive suite of content tailored to the varying needs of people with cancer, with specific focus on resources regarding exercise, diet, welfare, and psycho-social support.



Breast Cancer Survivor  
Patrice Morrissey pictured  
with her son Ryan.





# End-of-life care

## Our Goal

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

## To achieve this

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

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

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

## The impact we had in 2024

In 2024, we provided 6,050 nights of care to cancer patients, reflecting a 12% decrease from the previous year.

Over the course of the year, just under 200 nurses provided nights of care. Despite our best efforts, we were unable to fulfil requests for a night nurse for 18% of nights where one was requested, compared to 12% of requests in 2023.

We remain deeply concerned about the unmet need for night nursing and end-of-life care. Our service offers up to 10 nights of care for patients, with extensions available if necessary. However, in 2024, patients received an average of just over two nights of care. We are worried that barriers are preventing patients from accessing end-of-life and palliative care in the community, and that patients and families who could benefit from our service are not accessing it early enough.

We continued to promote the night nursing service to increase awareness, spotlighting the service as part of our We Won't Stop campaign and TV advert promotion. We are indebted to the families who have used the service, and the night nurses, who shared their stories throughout the campaign to highlight this important work.

Internally, we have worked to improve the quality of the service. We updated our Induction Day content to include new learning and introduced an annual Clinical Update, Support & Engagement Day regionally for Night Nurses to ensure up-to-date clinical knowledge and support.

We implemented virtual support meetings for nurses to provide support and promote engagement with the service. Our bimonthly education webinars on palliative care topics, featuring specialist speakers, continue to be a valuable resource.

To ensure continuity of care during adverse weather conditions, we engaged with the Civil Defence for assistance with transportation of night nurses to and from patient homes during yellow and orange weather warnings.

In 2025, we will complete a night nursing service evaluation to better understand the challenges, barriers and benefits of the service. This evaluation will guide us in taking actions to improve the service and enhance our ability to support more people to die at home.

We also launched the results from our palliative care research project, carried out by Dr Suzanne Denieffe at Southeast Technological University. This research focused on determining the energy hardship issues facing people dying at home. Recommendations from this report were presented to the Oireachtas Committee on Social Protection, Community and Rural Development and the Islands. We will continue our work in 2025 to lobby for better financial support for these patients.



Achieving against our objectives

OBJECTIVE	RESULTS	PROGRESS
Conduct an evaluation of our night nursing service and identify opportunities for future development.	Evaluation began but delayed due to change in external evaluators. Project to be completed in 2025.	Achieved in part
Reduce the proportion of nights which we are unable to provide a night nurse to no more than 10%.	We were sadly unable to provide a night nurse for 18% of nights where one was requested.	Not achieved
Recruit and retain our dedicated night nursing staff, aiming for an increase in the number of night nurses working per year and an increase in the average number of nights worked by each night nurse.	We had 11 night nurses retire in 2024, and we successfully recruited 33 new nurses. The average number of nights worked by a night nurse decreased from 49 in the previous year to 47 in 2024.	Not achieved
Increase to 7,250 the number of nights of night nursing care delivered to cancer patients.	This was not achieved, with 6,050 nights of care provided to cancer patients in 2024.	Not achieved
Complete a refresh of our policies and procedures for the night nursing service.	Existing policies were all reviewed and disseminated to Night Nurses through a policy repository. New policies have been prepared and approved for the Night Nursing service with ongoing work continuing into 2025.	Achieved in part
Increase political awareness of energy hardship struggles experienced by cancer patients at the-end-of-life.	Presented research findings to the Oireachtas Committee on Social Protection, Community and Rural Development and the Islands. Engaged with policy makers and Department officials, made recommendations to political parties ahead of the General Election, and made recommendations in our pre-Budget 2025 submission.	Achieved



Night Nurse  
Hilary Nevin

Our objectives for 2025

- Conduct an evaluation of our night nursing service and identify opportunities for future development.
- Reduce the proportion of nights when we are unable to provide a night nurse.
- Recruit and retain our dedicated night nursing staff, aiming for an increase in the number of night nurses working per year and an increase in the average number of nights worked by each night nurse.
- Complete a refresh of our clinical policies and procedures for the night nursing service.



# Structured for impact

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

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

## The impact we’ve had in 2024

We are able to effectively advocate for change for cancer patients because we have the networks, relationships and grassroots structures to do so. Deepening these structures is a part of our strategy, and in 2024 we had 44 Advocacy Champions in our network. We also continued to support the Oireachtas Cross-Party Group on Cancer, a dedicated political group on cancer, bringing together 18 TDs and Senators from across the political spectrum. Alongside our staff, this group championed the “Leave Our Leave” campaign which resulted in the Maternity Protection Amendment Bill being signed into legislation in the Oireachtas in 2024.

In 2024, the Society welcomed over 625 new volunteers, marking a 25% increase from 2023. We continued to enhance our onboarding, recruitment and training programs. Additionally, we hosted two Volunteer & Patient events and one Volunteer event in 2024. These took place in Cork, Limerick and Sligo with approximately 300 volunteers and patients in attendance. The events provided an opportunity for volunteers and patients to connect, learn more about the Society, and celebrate their invaluable commitment and contributions as a community.

Following a review of our performance management system, a revised and updated process was implemented in 2024. Taking a continuous, feedback-led approach, the updated process aims to ensure everyone receives regular, timely feedback about their performance and has regular opportunities to discuss their goals and development. The process is designed to ensure we deliver on our commitments and helps staff understand where adjustment might be needed and where they can develop further. We also developed and introduced a new employee induction programme which aims to deliver a more personalised approach for new starters, building a connection with the organisation from the moment they join.

Our commitment to investing in people continued through training and development initiatives, led by the introduction of our new management leadership programme. The programme was well received by the 23 managers who participated in 2024 and included a focus on culture, personal effectiveness and principles of management and leadership. Impact from the programme has continued through action learning sets and quarterly management meetings, led by managers themselves. For a third year in a row, we were delighted to be recognised on the Sunday Independent/Statista Best Employers List, moving to 3rd place nationally in 2024.

We have continued to grow our online presence through social media expansion and through cancer.ie. We have ended 2024 with 284,000 social media followers across Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn (up 2% from 2023), and continue to engage the public with daily original and creative content. 1.6 million people (unique visitors) also came to cancer.ie in 2024, an increase of 6% on 2023.

The Irish Cancer Society brand is essential to increase awareness of the Society, and ensure more people can avail of our supports and services, and support our fundraising. In 2024 we continued the delivery of our refreshed brand identity across our physical and digital assets, with the highlight being our new TV advert campaign We Won’t Stop. We continued to implement our brand roll-out in a phased manner, utilising existing materials and consumables with the previous branding. This approach minimises waste, enhances sustainability, and remains cost effective.

The Society continues to enhance our processes and technology to improve efficiency and effectiveness.

For example, due to the rapid response of resolving technology support requests within 24 hours, staff are enabled to focus on delivering cancer care and fundraising activities without technical barriers. Additionally, the Society’s Microsoft secure score increased from 46% to 66% in 2024, surpassing the global average of 50%.

Upholding the highest standards of governance and integrity remains crucial to our mission. We are proud to have maintained our reputation as one of Ireland’s most trusted charities in 2024, and we continue to work diligently every day to sustain this trust. Over the past year, we enhanced our policies and training on GDPR and cybersecurity, and refreshed our approaches to risk management, risk register and internal audits.

## Achieving our objectives

OBJECTIVE	RESULTS	PROGRESS
Enhance the support and supervision available for volunteers, especially for their wellbeing.	Volunteer Coordinator recruited with new support and supervision processes and documentation in progress.	Achieved in part
Update our performance management systems for staff.	Achieved and updated performance management process.	Achieved
Recruit 500 new volunteers to the Society.	Achieved with over 625 new volunteers recruited.	Achieved
Continue the roll-out of our new branding across the Society’s work.	New TV advert campaign We Won’t Stop was launched and continued to roll-out our branding across the Society’s work.	Achieved
Continue to grow our online and social media engagement.	Increase in social media followers and visitors to our website.	Achieved
Enhance our assurance testing and governance with a new external provider and agreed internal audit plan.	Two internal audits completed in the areas of HR and Cybersecurity with the support of an external provider.	Achieved
Continue to embed our newly developed Risk Management Framework.	A full review of our risk management framework was completed including training for staff and ELT.	Achieved

## Our objectives for 2025

- Strengthen our approach to staff learning and development, identifying new opportunities for learning which enhance the quality of our work and foster a culture of learning.
- Continue to progress workplace diversity, equality and inclusion.
- Launch the new Irish Cancer Society website.
- Continue to enhance the support and supervision available for volunteer drivers.
- Continue to recruit new volunteers to the Society to ensure services are adequately supported.
- Continue the roll-out of our new branding across the Society’s work, with a focus on our Daffodil Centres.
- To further roll out our approach to Risk Management through divisional Risk Registers and cross-org risk assessments.



# 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 Peer Support programme, providing emotional and practical support to anyone going through cancer; the Transport Service, bringing patients to and from chemotherapy appointments; and our Daffodil Centres, providing information and support.

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

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

By working together as staff and volunteers, we expand our reach into communities across Ireland. We are grateful to our volunteers for giving their time, skills and enthusiasm freely to help cancer patients and their families. We aim to help volunteers by providing support and supervision by dedicated staff in the Society. Clear policies and processes provide guidance with any issues a volunteer may have. We facilitate opportunities to recognise the fantastic effort of our volunteers through events like our Volunteer and Patient Gatherings.

In line with our values, we ensure that all staff are paid the National Living Wage, not just the minimum wage. We report annually on our Gender Pay Gap and 2024 saw a further narrowing down to 4% for our mean pay gap. The Society aims to be competitive with market rates within the not-for-profit sector in its approach to pay, subject to budgetary constraints. We review our salaries annually.

Given the contribution, commitment and dedication of our staff, it is important that we, as an organisation, are a good employer recognising, supporting and celebrating their work. We conduct annual engagement surveys with our staff and our overall engagement score in 2024 remained high, a further improvement on 2023.

Every day our staff and volunteers work with pride and commitment, embracing new ways of working, adapting to change and always retaining focus on doing the best that they can for people affected by cancer. We are always delighted when our staff and volunteers are recognised for their commitment. In 2024 we won the Excellence in Mental Health and Workplace Wellbeing award at the Workplace Excellence Awards.

To our community of staff, volunteers and supporters, thank you for all that you have done in 2024, and every year, to support people affected by cancer in Ireland.

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

Caroline O'Sullivan, Irish Cancer Society Nurse.

## Diversity and inclusion

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

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

A particular focus of our strategy is to reduce inequality of outcome and close the survival gap. Throughout our work we aim to reach and serve people experiencing social and economic disadvantage. Our focus on reducing the cost of cancer, for example, particularly supports lower income families. We also bring our 'Your Health Matters' roadshows to areas with higher rates of cancer and lower access to health services, to help reduce inequalities in cancer detection, as well as partnering with the Capuchin Centre to reach the most vulnerable in society.

In order to better understand the needs of people affected by cancer from diverse backgrounds, we fund dedicated research aimed at collecting evidence and data as to which individuals and communities in Ireland have poorer cancer outcomes, to assess the issues these individuals and communities face, and to develop new interventions to overcome these barriers. In 2024, we funded research in Trinity College Dublin to understand the survivorship needs of individuals with physical disabilities.

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

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

We are actively working to increase the accessibility, inclusivity and usability of our patient information.

In 2024:

- We continued our work at the Capuchin Day Centre where our Cancer awareness nurses provided health checks for the clients.
- We worked with a broad range of organisations including the Irish Wheelchair Association, REHAB group, National Traveller Women's Forum, AkiDwA, Muslim Sisters of Eire, DEPAUL Homeless Charity, Rainbow Clubhouse, Outhouse LGBTQ+ Centre, Mental Health Ireland, Men's Sheds, and Women's Sheds.
- And we also worked with the HSE Healthy Island Initiative bringing our Cancer awareness work to the Islands on the West Coast.
- We introduced a new Domestic Violence policy and resources for all staff. The policy sets out several supports for staff if they are experiencing domestic or intimate partner violence.
- We developed our new DEI glossary and style guide, which gives guidance on inclusive language. The content is based on the feedback we received from organisations all around Ireland representing different groups and desktop research into best practice. This glossary is used to guide us in producing cancer information across all our work.
- We reviewed our online information from a DEI perspective, including diversity in imagery and gender-neutral language.
- Our new **Sex, sexuality and cancer** booklet includes supportive content for the LGBTQIA+ community.
- An inclusive approach was also used in the update of our most-circulated printed info too, in the What You Should Know leaflets, and likewise in our social media cancer information posts and campaigns.

In 2025, we will launch the results from our initial research



determining the accessibility issues facing adults, children, adolescents and young adults from underserved communities, using these results we will identify new ways to reach people and provide support.

We will also continue our diversity, equality and inclusion training, for staff and volunteers, as well as continually looking for opportunities across all our work to ensure that our work and the Society is a community for all.

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

## Sustainability

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

As an organisation, we are committed to working in the most environmentally sustainable way possible, for the good of our planet and its people. We have taken steps in our everyday actions, reducing paper consumption and printing; and ensuring the re-use or recycling of our waste wherever possible. We adopt a hybrid working model in our Dublin offices, which has reduced waste, water and paper consumption and energy use in 2024 as compared to pre-pandemic.

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

Each year we sell thousands of daffodil silk pins on Daffodil Day. Our pin design is made from 100% recycled materials. We have also considered sustainability across our other branded stock with a focus on reuseable and sustainable products such as reuseable coffee mugs, water bottles and tote bags.

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

## Our partnerships

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

We work with other health charities and public health organisations to promote and support policies which enable people to live a healthy life. We are members

of the Alcohol Alliance and part of the Tobacco Free Ireland partner group, working to reduce the health risks from smoking and excessive alcohol consumption.

We also work with other charities and cancer organisations, to avoid duplication of effort and to expand what we can offer to people in Ireland. We work with CRUK and CCLG, two UK based cancer charities, to customise their cancer information and publications so that Irish cancer patients can benefit from their work. We also collaborated with Barretstown to provide camps for families and young people affected by cancer. 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 to share knowledge of activities and services to support children, teenagers and young adults affected by cancer. We support the work of 221+, the group supporting individuals directly affected by failures in the CervicalCheck Screening programme and sit on the 221+ Steering Group.

We also partner and collaborate with other organisations to support good governance, management and advancement of the sector. We are members of Volunteer Ireland and of the Charities Institute of Ireland. We were proud to support the We Act campaign in 2024, which is a collaborative campaign to celebrate the impact of Ireland's charities and community groups. Our Support Line is also a member of the Helplines Partnership.

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

We work with healthcare professionals and the wider health system to ensure our information, supports and services meet the needs of people affected by cancer. We work with the National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) on patient education, promoting research, supporting cancer care, and on cancer prevention initiatives. We also work with the National Screening Service to support efforts to increase screening take-up. We are members of networks such as the Irish Psycho-Social Oncology Network (IPSON), the Irish Cancer Prevention Network, and groups for specific cancer types of issues.



Irish Cancer Society CEO Averil Power, Daffodil Lunch MC and Newstalk presenter Anton Savage and Chair of the Irish Cancer Society board Bríd Horan.

**We. Won't. Stop. advocating for the Government to put the needs of cancer patients at the heart of policies that directly affect their care and their wellbeing during and after cancer.**



Childhood cancer survivor  
Tommy Grant pictured with  
his mum Róisín



Our research funding supports over 180 researchers in hospitals, research organisations and universities across Ireland, and we collaborate and work together to disseminate that research and support patient impact. We also work in partnership by funding and supporting multidisciplinary research groups and networks.

These groups share research knowledge, experience and funding, and can result in breakthroughs which would not be possible alone. In 2024, we continued to fund the next generation of cancer researchers and health and social care professionals. We also supported key research projects across the country including the Liam Mc trial – a pilot survivorship programme for male survivors of genitourinary cancer. We enabled a number of key research events through our support for the Irish Association for Cancer Research Annual meeting, the Gynaecological Cancer Intergroup Cervical Cancer Consensus conference, and the Joint Euro-American Cancer Forum.

We are members of a number of national research committees, including Health Research Charities Ireland, Cancer Trials Ireland Disease-Specific SubGroups, and the National Cancer Research Group. We have strategic partnerships in place with Cancer Trials Ireland, Trinity St James's Cancer Institute and Beaumont RCSI Cancer Centre.

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. Patients and their families 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.

Through our patient involvement panel, we also work in partnership with people affected by cancer to drive forward our cancer research decisions and priorities and to ensure that our cancer research is patient focused.

All that we do is with, and for, people affected by cancer in Ireland.

**We. Won't. Stop.  
researching to  
find better, kinder  
treatments and  
innovative detection  
methods.**





Daffodil Day fundraisers Go All in Against Cancer on Daffodil Day



VHI Mini Marathon 2024 Participants

**Time and again, our volunteers and the people of Ireland go above and beyond in their support.**

# Fundraising review

**In 2024 we saw a full Daffodil Day programme with engagement across the country, on streets, in schools, colleges and workplaces. Daffodil Day 2024 achieved income of over €5.6million.**

In 2024 we saw a full Daffodil Day programme with engagement across the country, on streets, in schools, colleges and workplaces. Daffodil Day 2024 achieved income of over €5.6million. Once again, our volunteer community and the Irish public were overwhelming in their generosity.

We saw our amazing volunteers take to the streets and hold events, demonstrating the strength of the cancer community. Our online adaptations and new initiatives developed in recent years stayed strong, helping us to reach this remarkable result. Over the course of 2024 we raised €22 million through donations, legacies and fundraising campaigns. This is an incredible increase of €1.1 million (+5%) on 2023.

## Achieving our objectives

Our objectives for 2024 were to continue to innovate to ensure we retain and maintain some of our most loved campaigns together with some new initiatives. We continued to develop our best-in-class donor experience, volunteer stewardship and brand profile, all of which resulted in strong results overall and a strong foundation to maintain a sustainable fundraising stream. We worked with amazing corporate partners with workplace fundraising, employee wellness programmes and public-facing fundraising, all the while demonstrating the Irish Cancer Society's purpose and impact. We continued to build our philanthropic messaging and offering, working with trusts, foundations, and individual major donors.

## How did we do

### Campaigns

Outside of our Daffodil day, the National Campaign calendar was a busy one. Our Relay For Life Campaign saw two new Relays take place last year in Limerick and TUD Grangegorman and overall, Relay For Life brought in close to €1m, nearly 170k more than the previous year. Our Colour Dash Campaign was back in Phoenix Park with roughly 1,600 supporters taking part to support our children, adolescent and young adult (CAYA) services. Our breast cancer campaign, Big Pink Breakfast, went into its third year with supporters across the country hosting Big Pink Breakfasts in communities and companies nationwide. Christmas continued to bring a season of goodwill from supporters who responded to our campaign by purchasing donation cards, Christmas ornaments and providing general donations, seeing us surpass our overall target and raising over €450,000.



Corporate

We are grateful for continued and new support from companies such as Boots, Primark, Centra, Pfizer, EY, Kirby Group, MSD and Revolut. Our partnership with Primark supporting breast cancer patients raised over €251,000 for the Society and we provided breast cancer awareness information stands and breast check demonstrations for the public in 11 Penneys stores throughout October, reaching over 9,000 people. Our Cancer Awareness Workplace programme carried out 51 cancer awareness presentations and information stands, with an estimated reach of 6,700 people in 2024. Our programme was brought to Centra, Arysza, EY, Dillion Eustace, KM Lynskey, Dell, Autodesk, Mercury Engineering and many more throughout 2024.

Community fundraising

Together with contributing to the amazing success of Daffodil Day, our community team across the country had a really strong year. Hurling For Cancer Research saw great success with the game also broadcast on TG4 from Cullen Park in Carlow, raising over €185,000. Its success was mirrored by other longstanding events including the Moylagh JFK 50 Mile raising €130,000 and Innishannon Steam and Vintage Rally raising €100,000. In the active challenge space, 2024 saw some growth, reaching over €1.5 million. This was fuelled largely by a team of over 480 people taking on the Dublin Marathon, raising in excess of €695,000 and 360 runners taking on the Dublin Women’s Mini Marathon raising in excess of €190,000.

Committed giving

With renewed confidence in the marketplace, face- to-face fundraising performed well to recruit new monthly donors 2% ahead of target. Our in-person representation through partner channels brought positive conversations, engaging connections, heightened trust and credibility and awareness of cancer supports for everyone in need.

A range of recruitment channels were trialled to include the General Election Petition sign up via social media which drove over 2,000 signatures. Retention emails and call campaigns worked well to keep supporters engaged, informed and updated on news and developments made possible by their donations.

Digital giving

“In memory” digital donations increased by 12% on 2023 income, with over half of that total coming through Fundraise Up. Fundraise Up is our donation platform, where a digital “in memory” card can be requested. We are continuing to develop new ways to improve our supporters’ experience and encourage tribute donations, as Facebook tribute gifts were no longer available. Increased presence on existing sites, weddings online and RIP.ie, and implementation of new platforms, like Fundraise Up, will increase visibility of these gifts and revenue.

Major donors and philanthropy

It was an important year for major donor events, with the second Daffodil Lunch taking place along with the Ceiling Breakers Pink Ball. We were successful in grant funding through the Toy Show Appeal. We also welcomed new foundations and a significant major donation for our CAYA programme.

- Continue to maintain brand prominence and demonstrate our impact.
- Continue to strive for excellence in our donor engagement.
- Continue to grow Relay For Life events across the country.
- Drive new campaigns as we continue to grow our fundraising activity, with a constant focus on supporter insights.
- Build on our philanthropic partnerships.



Relay for Life 2024 participants



Colour Dash 2024 Ambassador Anna Daly and sons James (12), Euan (11) and Rhys (7)



# Financial review

2024 was a remarkable year for the Irish Cancer Society, marked by a significant increase in demand for its services. With the generous support of its valued donors, dedicated volunteers, and committed employees, it successfully raised €30.6m, reflecting a 7% increase from 2023.

In 2024, the Society's total income was €30.6m (2023: €28.7m), an increase of €1.9m (7%) on prior year. The Society's total expenditure for 2024 was €31.8m (2023: €31.0m), an increase of €0.8m (3%) on prior year.

## Income

To ensure the sustainability of future funding, the Society works to diversify its revenue streams by expanding the donor base, leveraging digital platforms, hosting innovative fundraising events, and building long-term relationships with corporate partners. The Society explores new grant opportunities and continues to enhance its already robust financial management practices to strengthen funding stability. The vast majority of 2024 income came from the generous support of the public, through fundraising campaigns, donations, legacies and charity shop sales. Grants from the State represented only 6% (2023: 5%) of the Society's total income.

On 22 March 2024, the Society ran a successful community and street-based Daffodil Day event, which raised a total of €5.7m in income (2023: €5.8m).

### Donations and legacies

Income from donations and legacies in 2024 was €22.4m. This was €1.3m higher than in 2023.

### Donations

The Society received €20.0m in donations in 2024 (2023: €18.8m). The 2024 Daffodil Day campaign proved very successful raising a total of €5.7m (2023: €5.8m). Other national campaigns and donations contributed a total of €6.6m in 2024 (2023: €6.4m). The Society managed to grow its 2024 level of individual giving income to €3.9m (2023: €3.6m); this was due to a number of successful special appeal campaigns, and a continued investment in the Society's door-to-door individual giving programme.

As part of the Society's growth strategy, income from philanthropy and corporate partnerships reached €3.8m in 2024, marking a 28% increase compared with 2023. Overall, in spite of the challenging economic situation, and the competing demands on the public's disposable income, the Society successfully managed to grow its total donations by 6%; this was achieved across many income streams, and thanks to numerous innovative fundraising initiatives.

### Legacies

The Society's income from legacies was €2.4m in 2024, an increase of €0.1m on 2023. Legacy income is unpredictable and tends to fluctuate year on year.

### Trading activities

Income from the Society's 21 (2023: 21) charity shops remained steady at €4.8m in 2024. The shops continue to deal with strong demand and contribute a surplus; €1.2m in 2024 (2023: €1.5m).

### Charitable activities

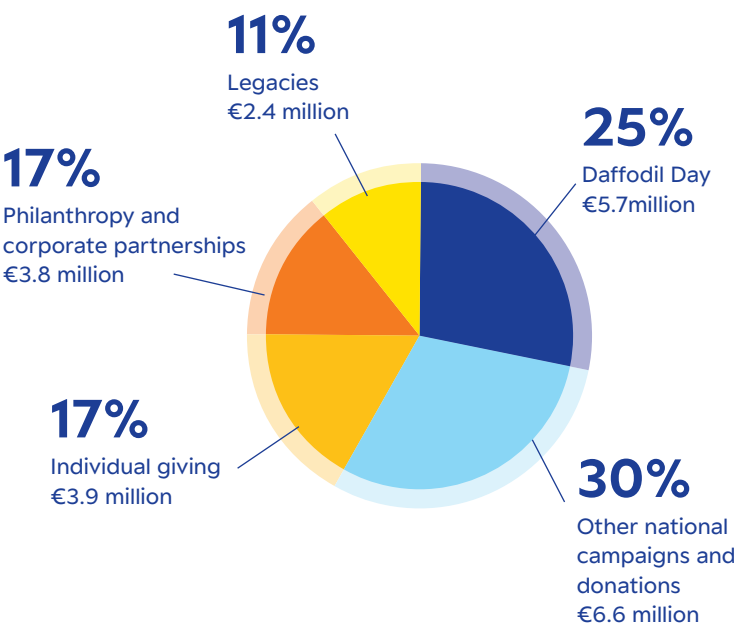
Income from charitable activities of €3.2m was €0.5m higher than in 2023. This income includes grants from the HSE and NCCP to support the Society's night nursing and Travel2Care programmes, and reimbursements for night nursing services provided.

Income from government agencies represented 6% of the Society's total income in 2024 (2023: 5%).

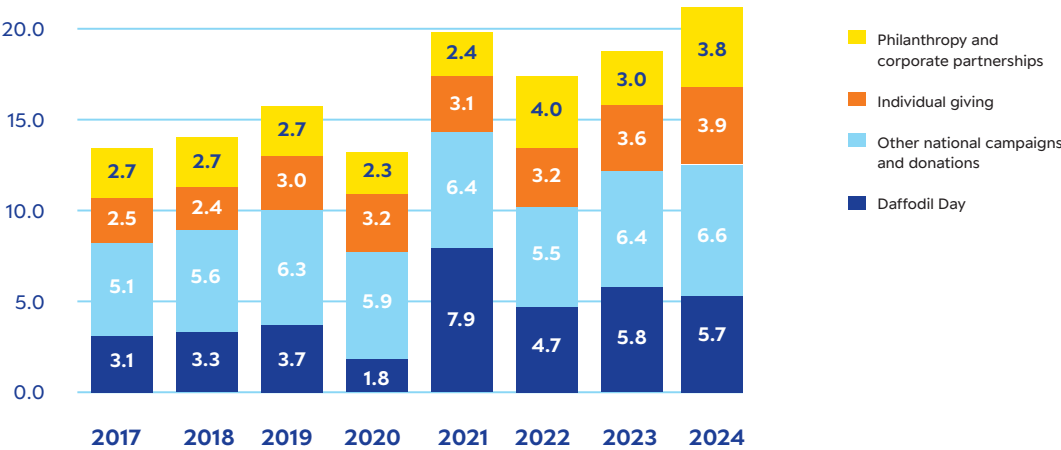
### Other income

Other income of €0.1m was in line with 2023; this includes income from the VAT Compensation Scheme.

## 2024 Donations and Legacies



## Donations 2017-2024



## Expenditure

In 2024, the Society invested €31.8m (2023: €31.0m) in furtherance of its goals.

Expenditure	2024	2023
Charitable Activities	€20.7m	€20.9m
Fundraising Activities	€7.5m	€6.8m
Trading Activities	€3.6m	€3.3m
Total Expenditure	€31.8m	€31.0m

For every euro spent by the Society, 74c (2023: 75c) went on charitable activities (not including trading activities). A further 26c (2023: 25c) was spent by the Society to raise money to fund its charitable activities. This increase was due to an increased investment in the Society's national campaigns, and individual giving campaigns.

### Charitable activities

Expenditure in relation to charitable activities in 2024 was €20.7m (2023: €20.9m); decreased by €0.2m (1%) in relation to 2023. The Society continued to invest in its charitable services, and spent an additional €0.1m in relation to its Transport Service, and an additional €0.5m in relation to public and patient awareness and education campaigns. Since 2018, the Society has increased its investment in charitable activities to align with its strategic goals. The Society is now entering the embedding phase of its Strategy, ensuring these investments have a lasting impact.



Fundraising activities

€7.5m was spent on fundraising activities (2023: €6.8m), representing an increase of €0.7m (10%) on 2023 expenditure. This increase was due to the Society increasing its investment in its individual giving programmes, as well as increasing its efforts in promoting national fundraising campaigns. For every euro spent on fundraising activities in 2024, the Society raised €3.00 in donations and legacies (2023: €3.00).

Support costs

Support costs, which cannot be directly attributed to specific activities, have been allocated accordingly. These include expenses related to information technology, human resources, finance, governance, and other central functions. These services are essential for providing core organisational support in achieving the Society's charitable goals.

The total support costs for the year amounted to €4.1m (2023: €4.0m). The primary drivers of this increase were investments in the Society's IT and compliance infrastructure, as well as HR training and organisational planning; all in line with the Society's strategic goals.

Trading activities

Trading activities spend was €3.6m, which was an increase of €0.3m (8%) on 2023. The increase was due to an overall increase in costs.

Financial position and reserves policy

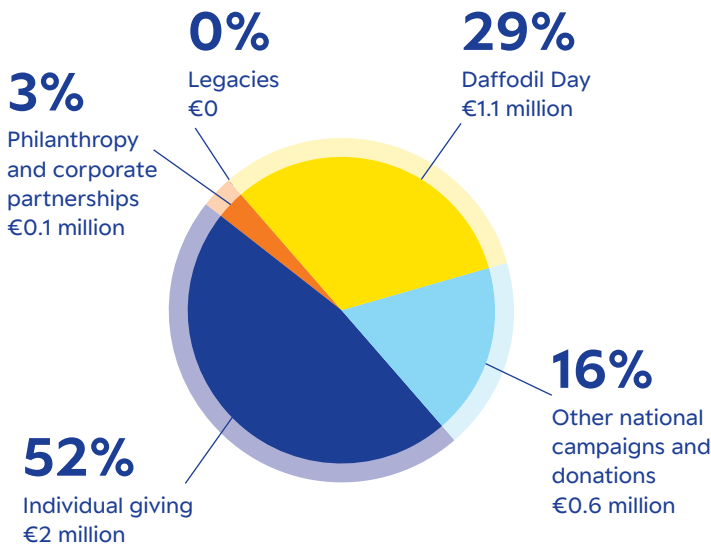
The Society's reserves policy ensures the maintenance of adequate reserves to continue providing critical services during challenging economic times and to act on unexpected opportunities to improve the lives of those affected by cancer. This policy offers essential accountability to beneficiaries, public supporters, and other stakeholders, assuring them of the Society's sustainability.

To minimise liquidity risk, the Society holds a portion of its reserves on deposit with reputable financial institutions. Funds not required for operational purposes in the medium term are managed by investment advisers and invested in marketable securities. The Society regularly monitors cash and investment levels to meet expenditure commitments.

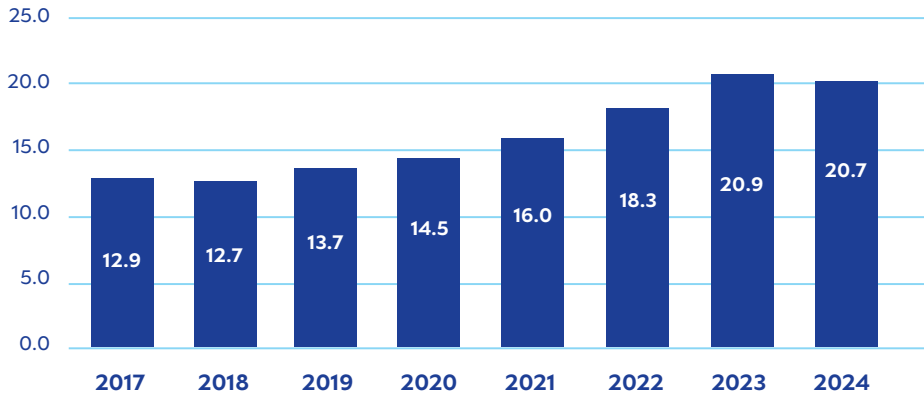
The Finance Committee assesses counterparty risk with institutions holding Society funds and annually reviews the allocation of funds to the investment portfolio. The Society aims to maintain approximately six months of annual expenditure in cash and investments, with actual amounts varying based on short and medium-term needs, income forecasts, and the prevailing economic climate. The current targeted reserves amount stands at €15m.

The available resources at 31 December 2024 were €29.7m (2023: €30.2m). Of this, €0.5m (2023: €0.3m) was held in restricted funds, as the funds were donated for specific purposes. €16.0m (2023: €21.2m) was held in general funds, and €13.2m (2023: €8.8m) was held in designated funds. At 31 December 2024, the Society held 11.6 months of expenditure in cash and investments, on a €30.0m annual expenditure basis (31 December 2023: 11.9 months on a €30.0m annual expenditure basis). During 2020, the Society launched a new ambitious five-year strategy; this level of cash and investments will allow expenditure on programmes under this strategy. The Society has budgeted for a deficit in 2025 as it continues to invest in a number of initiatives to improve the lives of those affected by cancer. The current level of reserves will enable the Society to continue to deliver critical services to those affected by cancer, despite the current uncertain economic environment.

2024 fundraising campaign direct expenditure



Charitable activities expenditure 2017-2023



Designated funds

€13.2m was held in the designated fund at the year-end. This balance is made of €5.7m, which represents the value of multi-annual research commitments that have yet to be recognised in the Society's income and expenditure account, and €7.5m which represents three months of expenditure on a €30.0m annual expenditure basis.

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 €30.0m annual expenditure basis, this would be €15.0m. 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 2024, the Society's invested funds yielded an average return of +9.1% (2023: +8.6%). There was a gain on investments of €0.6m in 2024 (2023: +€0.6m).

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 organisation

## 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:

- advancing the prevention, detection and early diagnosis of cancer and any disease of an allied or similar nature to cancer; and
- improving the treatment, care, services and supports available for people affected by cancer and such other diseases or health issues as may be determined by the Board from time to time.

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 5th March 2020 and 1st July 2021 respectively.

## Members

There are currently 46 members of the Irish Cancer Society, 9 of whom are Directors. Each member guarantees to contribute up to one euro twenty-seven cent (€1.27) to the Society's debts, liabilities and costs in the event of it being wound up.

## Board of Directors

The Society has a voluntary Board of Directors. The Directors are responsible for the governance and overall oversight of the organisation and its activities. The Board met 6 times during the year.

The Board of Directors ensures that the Society's activities align with its charitable objectives and aims. There are clear and formal distinctions between the roles of the Board and the Executive Leadership Team, to whom day-to-day management is delegated.

The financial delegations are outlined in the level of authorities, which is reviewed and updated regularly by the relevant committee establishing clearly defined boundaries. Detail on the Board, CEO and Executive Leadership Team is available on page 66 to 71.

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

The Board conducted a review of the tenure policies for the Board Chair, Board of Directors, and Board sub-Committee members during 2023-2024. Several changes were agreed upon:

- Board Chair:
  - Previously: Elected annually for a maximum of four years.
  - New Policy (2024): Appointed for a term of four years, extendable by the Board for an additional year.
  - Amendment approved by the Board and at the AGM in August 2024.
- Board of Directors:
  - Policy remains unchanged. Directors are appointed for a maximum of 6 years, which can be extended by the Board for an additional three years if it serves the best interests of the Society.
- Board Sub-Committees members and Chairs:
  - Chairs: Appointed for three years, extendable by the Board.
  - Committee Members: Appointed for three years, extendable by the Board for an additional three years.
  - The Board retains the discretion to extend a Committee member's tenure further, considering the skills and experience requirements for the Committee and any succession planning.
  - On 20th May 2025 Jim Dollard was appointed to the Board of Directors.

The Board Effectiveness Committee oversees the nomination and recruitment of Directors. In 2024, the Committee conducted a comprehensive skills review of the Board and its Committees, including an evaluation of tenure for all members. The following changes were made.

- Tenure Extensions:
  - Prof Sinead Brennan: The Board extended her tenure by one year due to her specialised medical and cancer expertise. Prof. Brennan, who has served for over eight years, will step down in 2025. A recruitment process is underway to find a new Board member with clinical expertise.
  - Allan Kearns, Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee: His term was extended by three years.
  - Ger Penny, Chair of the Finance Committee: His term was extended by two years.
- Upcoming Changes:
  - Bríd Horan: the Chair of the Board will step down in September 2025. A recruitment process is currently underway to select a new Chair.

Committee Recruitment: searches are ongoing for new members for the Audit & Risk and Finance Committees.

### Induction

All new Directors receive a comprehensive induction, overseen by management, in line with the Induction Policy. Directors meet with the Chair, the Chief Executive, and other members of the Executive Leadership Team. During their induction they receive an overview of the Society's activities, the strategic plan, an outline of their regulatory and statutory duties, and the Society's governance framework. In addition, they are provided with a comprehensive induction pack including the Society's Governance Manual. Going forward Committee Chairs will also be consulted on the induction needs of any newly appointed Committee members. We will review our induction policy for Directors and Committees in 2025.

Board training is considered by the Chair and CEO annually. Board members attend external training as arises and are also provided with briefings from the Executive Leadership Team throughout the year. In 2024, the Board participated in a dedicated training day that included development sessions on ESG, the cancer research landscape, and best practices in corporate governance for charities. In 2025 the Board will have dedicated time to review progress under the current strategy and consider the next strategic cycle and undertake cybersecurity and AI training.

### Board evaluation

The Board reviews its own effectiveness each year and commissions an external Board evaluation every three years. In late 2023 the Board undertook an external evaluation by Governance Ireland. In late 2024, the Board also conducted an internal self-evaluation to assess its efficiency and effectiveness. The results of both were positive, demonstrating that the Board is functioning well. The Board Effectiveness Committee will manage any remaining actions resulting from these evaluations in 2025.



Good governance

Effective governance is crucial to our sustained success as a charity. The Society fosters a culture of continuous improvement in our governance procedures and policies. During 2023-2024, the Board conducted a thorough review of the Constitution, including the main and subsidiary objects. The new Constitution was approved by the Board in March 2024, signed off by the Charities Regulator, and subsequently ratified at the AGM in August 2024.

Other areas of focus for the Board and ELT in 2024 were, reviewing the Board and Committee tenure policy, succession planning, reviewing the research committee terms of reference, governance training for the Board, reviewing the directors’ expenses policy and drafting a private time 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, and a judgement will be made on the most appropriate course of action given the materiality and nature of the conflict.

Directors also sign a register-of-interests declaration annually declaring their interests, and a register of interests is maintained by the Company Secretary. In addition, all Directors sign up to a Board Code of Conduct.

There were no instances or arrangements during 2024 whereby a Director was materially interested in the Company’s activities.

Meetings

The following Board and committee meetings were held in 2024:

Meetings held *	
Board of Directors	6
Finance Committee	5
Audit and Risk Committee	6
Board Effectiveness Committee	3
Research Advisory Committee	2

The following table shows Directors for the financial year 2024 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
Bríd Horan (Chair)	5 of 6	13 Jul 2020	
Prof Sinead Brennan	6 of 6	01 Sep 2016	
Ger Penny	6 of 6	05 Mar 2020	
Alex White	5 of 6	25 Mar 2020	
Irene O’Gorman	4 of 6	25 Mar 2020	
Allan Kearns	6 of 6	01 Jul 2021	
Dr Mary Canavan	6 of 6	08 Sep 2021	
Maria Fleming	6 of 6	01 Sep 2022	
Prof Janice Walsh	6 of 6	10 Jan 2024	
Jim Dollard	0 of 0	20 May 2025	

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

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 current Management team is made up of the following positions:

- CEO, Averil Power
- COO, Edel Shovlin
- Director of Clinical Affairs, Amy Nolan
- Director of Fundraising & Marketing, Glenda Ryan
- Director of Finance & Corporate Services, Jennifer Owens
- Director of People & Change, Honor Bleakley
- Director of Advocacy & Communications, Steve Dempsey

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

Board committees

In 2020 the Board oversaw a review of its Board committee structure to ensure alignment with the Society’s new Strategic Plan 2020-2025. The Board delegates specific responsibilities to the Board committees, each of which has a detailed terms of reference and reports to the Board. Each committee is chaired by a Board member, has at least one other Director as a member, and can co-opt external committee members as required. A review of the Terms of Reference for each Board sub-committee was undertaken towards end of 2023 and into early 2024 and is now complete. The new Committee Terms of Reference were approved by the Board.

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 2024 activity:** During 2024, the Finance Committee monitored the Society’s monthly management accounts, income and expenditure trends, investment performance, financial projections and reserve levels. It also oversaw the 2024 budgeting process, and was notified of any significant commitments. Additionally, the Committee reviewed the trading performance of the Society’s 21 charity shops.

Finance committee attendance 2024	
Ger Penny (Chair)	4 of 5
Irene O’Gorman	4 of 5
Maria Fleming	4 of 5

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 internal and external audit, reviewing the effectiveness of the Society’s internal controls, as well as adherence to the Charities Regulators 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 2024 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, and recommending the Annual Report to the Board. The Committee were updated on compliance with the Charities Regulator Governance Code, its s. 39 obligations, as well as the cyber security and health and safety framework. The Committee reviewed the risk register and were updated on incidents. In addition, the Committee oversaw the first year of the internal audit plan led by Mazars.

Audit & risk attendance 2024	
Allan Kearns (Chair)	6 of 6
Alex White	6 of 6
Kim McCann	6 of 6

Board effectiveness committee

The Board Effectiveness Committee oversees the nomination, recruitment, and on-going training, as necessary, of Directors. It also supports Board and Committee composition and effectiveness, as well as ensuring there is appropriate succession planning in place for the Board and Executive.

**Report of 2024 activity:** The Committee reviewed Board and Committee composition and skills, considered succession planning, and reviewed the Board and Committee tenure policy. It received updates on the Society’s major projects and considered two project evaluations. It received an update on CEO and Executive succession planning, and reviewed two new governance policies.



Board effectiveness attendance 2024	
Bríd Horan (Chair)	3 of 3
Ger Penny	3 of 3
Dr Mary Canavan	3 of 3
Allan Kearns	3 of 3
Jennifer Owens	3 of 3
Averil Power (CEO)	3 of 3

#### Research advisory committee

The Research Advisory Committee is established by the Board of the Irish Cancer Society. The role of the Committee is to assist the Board in discharging its responsibility for the strategic oversight of the Society's research programmes. It will ensure that all research activities are in line with the global and national cancer research landscape, in addition to emerging patient and clinical needs. The RAC will do this by providing support to, and oversight of, the work of the research team.

**Report of 2024 activity:** The Committee met twice in the year. It reviewed the activities and plans for the research department, and reviewed the research budget for 2025. The Committee advised on the implementation of the fourth year of our five-year research roadmap. It also provided feedback to the Society on how to make research investments that provide the greatest impact to those with cancer.

Research advisory attendance 2024	
Dr Mary Canavan (Chair)	2 of 2
Prof Sir Alex Markham	1 of 1
Dr Susan Gapstur	1 of 1
Prof John Reynolds	2 of 2
Dr Ann Brady	1 of 2
Prof Janice Walshe	1 of 2

\*In Aug 2024, Prof Sir Alex Markham and Dr Susan Gapstur stepped down from the Committee. In August 2024, Prof Janice Walshe joined as a member of the Committee.

### Commitment to best practice in corporate governance

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

During 2020 a detailed analysis of the Society's compliance with the Charites Regulator Governance Code was undertaken. As required by the Regulator, the Society continues to review compliance on an annual basis. In 2024 the Board reviewed the Society's compliance status and was satisfied the Society is compliant with the Governance Code, Guidelines for Charitable Organisations on Fundraising from the Public and Internal Financial Controls Guidelines for Charities. The Society has reported compliance with the Governance Code to the Regulator. During the year, further consideration was given to the Society's compliance with its section 39 obligations. The Society continues to work towards compliance with GDPR.

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

- Compliant with relevant obligations under the Companies Act 2014 and the Charities Act 2009 (and Amendment Act 2024).
- Compliant with the Charities Institute Ireland triple lock standards.
- Annual Report is in accordance with FRS 102 and Charities SORP.
- Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015.

All required filings are lodged with the Companies Registration Office (CRO) and the Charities Regulator.

### Directors' compliance statement

The Society is required to prepare a Section 225 Compliance Statement (Companies Act 2014), for 2024, 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 2024 the Directors, with the assistance of the Audit and Risk Committee, have conducted a review of the arrangements and structures in place. Arising out of this the Directors can confirm that appropriate arrangements and structures are in place which, in the opinion of the Directors, are designed to secure material compliance with the company's relevant obligations.

## Risk framework



### Risk management and internal control

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

In 2023, the Board, overseen by the Audit and Risk Committee, undertook a comprehensive review of the Society's risk management framework. In 2024 the focus was on embedding the new framework. Risk is a standing agenda item on each Audit and Risk Committee and Board meeting and formally the Board receives a comprehensive risk update twice a year. The ELT review the risk register on a quarterly basis. Each risk is assigned an owner and appropriate risk mitigations are established to ensure the Society is not exposed to an unacceptable level of preventable risk. In 2025 the Board will review the risk appetite and Management are developing divisional risk registers.

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 internal and external audit, and selects the relevant controls for independent testing. During 2024 the Committee oversaw the first year of a three-year internal audit plan being supported by Forvis Mazars. Two audits were conducted, in the areas of HR and cybersecurity, and reported back to the Committee and Board.

The formalising of an independent internal audit function is a significant step in providing assurance to the Board on the effectiveness of the Society's governance framework.

As an organisation we have a low tolerance attitude to fraud. The Society minimises the risk of fraud through a strong internal control environment, a compliance culture, staff training on fraud and a protected disclosure system. In 2024 all staff mandatory fraud training was provided, and a new Fraud policy and reporting procedure was launched to staff.

In 2024, the Society identified one incident of external fraud which had occurred in 2023. A report was made to the Charities Regulator, and the matter is currently under investigation by An Garda Síochána, with the Society complying fully with the investigation. As agreed with the Audit & Risk Committee, a review of internal controls was conducted by Management, resulting in enhancements to controls, and additional staff training.

In 2024 there were no protected disclosures. The Society maintains a complaints register, and in 2024 established a new services incident reporting framework.



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

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

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

Directors' responsibility statement

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by:



Bríd Horan  
Director



Allan Kearns  
Director

Date: TBC



# Our Board

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

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



## Bríd Horan Chair

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

**"The Society's services and investments to bring forward the day when people no longer die from cancer are made possible by our staff's commitment, the dedication of volunteers and our generous supporters. This dedication and generosity inspire us and underpin the Society's ambitions. On behalf of the Board, thank you and, on my own behalf, I want to thank my colleagues on the Board and on our Committees for their work, passion and commitment."**



## 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. She is clinical lead of the HRB-funded Irish Research Radiation Oncology Group.

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



## Ger Penny

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

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



## Irene O'Gorman

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

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



## Alex White

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

**"The Society goes from strength to strength, improving and enhancing our support services, and playing an important role in funding ground-breaking research. It is a great privilege to contribute 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."**



# Our Leadership Team



## Dr Mary Canavan

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

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



## Maria Fleming

Maria Fleming is CEO of First Fortnight, Ireland's mental health arts festival and Chair of the National Campaign for the Arts. Maria has over 20 years' experience working as a general manager, producer, programmer and arts consultant with Ireland's leading companies, including Dublin Theatre Festival, The Ark, Druid Theatre Company and Irish Modern Dance Theatre. She is a Sectoral Representative on the Community, Gaelige, Sport, Arts & Culture Strategic Policy Committee with Dublin City Council. Maria is passionate about social justice. In addition, Maria volunteers as an Advocacy Champion for the Irish Cancer Society.

**"The recent launch of the Lung Health Check was a powerful event for the Irish Cancer Society, a groundbreaking €4.9 million lung cancer research programme that was announced in 2024 and funded by the Irish Cancer Society. I look forward to following its progress bringing state of the art care to the community."**



## Prof Janice Walshe

Prof Janice Walshe is a graduate of University of Galway. She completed her specialist training in the Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Dublin and gained a master's in molecular medicine at Trinity College, Dublin. She completed her Fellowship in the National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, Maryland where she investigated novel approaches in the treatment of Her-2 positive and metastatic breast cancer.

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



## Averil Power

CEO

Averil has been Chief Executive of the Irish Cancer Society since January 2018. She has over twenty years of leadership, policymaking, and campaigns experience. She previously served as CEO of the Asthma Society of Ireland, an elected member of Seanad Éireann, and a policy adviser in several Government departments. Averil holds a Business degree from Trinity College Dublin, a Barrister at Law degree from the Kings Inns and a Diploma in ESG from the Corporate Governance Institute.



## Edel Shovlin

Chief Operations Officer

(appointed December 2024)

As Chief Operating Officer, Edel oversees the Services, Research, and Clinical Affairs teams, ensuring effective execution of the Society's strategy. She has a background as a Radiation Therapist in Ireland, the UK, and Australia, and has advanced her career in health tech and healthcare operations leadership globally. Edel is an innovative and energetic leader, passionately advocating for better cancer care and the work of the Irish Cancer Society.



## Jennifer Owens

Director of Finance & Corporate Services

Jennifer is an experienced finance leader with over 20 years' experience working in compliance, finance, technology, and risk. She has worked in both private and public organisations with significant senior leadership experience in the not for profit sector specialising in finance and governance. Jennifer holds a bachelor's in business, an accountancy qualification ACCA and a professional diploma in advanced management performance from UCD.



## Steve Dempsey

Director of Advocacy and Communications

Steve is an experienced media and technology leader with over 20 years' experience in communications, public policy and digital transformation. He has worked in publishing, broadcasting, advertising and PR, with significant experience in regulatory compliance and digital product development. He holds a Masters in Computer Science from TCD and a Masters in Philosophy from UCD.





## Glenda Ryan

### Director of Fundraising and Marketing

(appointed December 2024)

Glenda Ryan, Director of Fundraising and Marketing at the Irish Cancer Society, leads impactful fundraising and strategic marketing campaigns. With extensive nonprofit leadership experience, she advances cancer research, patient care, and advocacy. Glenda builds strong partnerships and innovative strategies to support the Society's mission of reducing cancer diagnoses, increasing survival rates, and ensuring access to world-class treatment and support.



## Honor Beakley

### Director of People & Change

(appointed January 2024)

Honor is a seasoned HR leader with over 20 years of experience in the not-for-profit sector, working globally with Concern Worldwide. She has designed and implemented various People initiatives, including award-winning talent and leadership development programs. Honor holds a Master's degree in Environmental Studies and Diplomas in Organisation Behaviour, Coaching, and Personnel Management. Her expertise and compassionate leadership strongly align with our values.



## Amy Nolan

### Director of Clinical Affairs

Amy Nolan is the Director of Clinical Affairs at The Irish Cancer Society, leading relationships with clinicians and healthcare professionals. She guides clinical services, acts as a spokesperson, and leads research and programs for children, adolescents, and young adults. Previously, she was the Head of CAYA and interim Night Nursing Manager, developing services for CAYA cancer patients and managing palliative care. In 2022, she became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland for her contributions to oncology nursing.

## Irish Cancer Society Organisation Chart





# Financial Statements



Dr Erin Crowley,  
Irish Cancer Society  
Research Award Winner



# 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 2024 and of the loss for the financial year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework and, in particular, with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

The financial statements we have audited comprise:

- the statement of financial activities;
- the Balance Sheet;
- the Statement of Cashflows;
- the related notes 1 to 27, including a summary of significant accounting policies as set out in note 1.

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

### Basis for opinion

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

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

### Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

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

### Other information

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

### Responsibilities of directors

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

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

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

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

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



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

## Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

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

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

- We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit.
- In our opinion the accounting records of the company were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited.
- The financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.
- In our opinion the information given in the directors’ report is consistent with the financial statements.
- In our opinion, those parts of the directors’ report specified for our review, which does not include sustainability reporting when required by Part 28 of the Companies Act 2014, have 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

# Statement of Financial Activities

	Notes	2024 Unrestricted	2024 Restricted	2024 Designated	2024 Total	2023 Unrestricted	2023 Restricted	2023 Designated	2023 Total
		€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
<b>INCOME:</b>									
Donations and legacies	3(a)	18,308	4,101	-	22,409	17,821	3,245	-	21,066
Trading activities	3(b)	4,757	-	-	4,757	4,765	-	-	4,765
Investments	3(c)	157	-	-	157	126	-	-	126
Charitable activities	3(d)	1,453	1,700	-	3,153	1,151	1,501	-	2,652
Other income	3(e)	155	-	-	155	73	-	-	73
<b>Total income</b>		<b>24,830</b>	<b>5,801</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>30,631</b>	23,936	4,746	-	28,682
<b>EXPENDITURE:</b>									
Charitable activities	4	15,156	5,585	-	20,741	15,475	5,387	-	20,862
Fundraising activities	5	7,469	-	-	7,469	6,800	-	-	6,800
Trading activities		3,550	-	-	3,550	3,291	-	-	3,291
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>26,175</b>	<b>5,585</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>31,760</b>	25,566	5,387	-	30,953
Net gain on investments	13	597	-	-	597	632	-	-	632
<b>Net (expenditure) / income</b>	9	<b>(748)</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(532)</b>	(988)	(641)	-	(1,639)
Taxation	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers between funds	8	(4,400)	-	4,400	-	(7,800)	-	7,800	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(5,148)</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(532)</b>	(8,798)	(641)	7,800	(1,639)
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:</b>									
Funds balances brought forward		21,165	253	8,800	30,128	29,963	894	1,000	31,857
<b>Funds balances carried forward</b>		<b>16,017</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>13,200</b>	<b>29,686</b>	21,165	253	8,800	30,218

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

The notes on pages 80 to 100 form part of these financial statements.



Balance sheet

	Notes	2024 €'000	2023 €'000
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible assets	12	8,039	8,300
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>		<b>8,039</b>	<b>8,300</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Investments	13	8,034	7,361
Stocks		200	190
Debtors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	1,443	1,560
Cash at bank and in hand		20,981	22,487
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>30,658</b>	<b>31,598</b>
<b>Creditors:</b> Amounts falling due within one year	15	<b>(6,331)</b>	(6,435)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>24,327</b>	25,163
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>32,366</b>	33,463
<b>Creditors:</b> Amounts falling due after more than one year			
Long term liabilities	15	(2,680)	(3,245)
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>29,686</b>	30,218
<b>Funds:</b>			
Restricted income funds	8	469	253
<u>Unrestricted income funds</u>			
General income funds		16,017	21,165
Designated income funds		13,200	8,800
Total unrestricted income funds		29,217	29,965
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<b>29,686</b>	30,218

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board of directors on \_\_\_\_\_ and signed on its behalf by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bríd Horan  
Director

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Allan Kearns  
Director

The notes on pages 80 to 100 form part of these financial statements.

Statement of cash flows

	Notes	2024 €'000	2023 €'000
Cash flows from operating activities:			
<b>Net cash generated by operating activities</b>	18	<b>(711)</b>	598
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>			
Deposit interest received		15	2
Purchase of fixed assets	12	(137)	(159)
<b>Net cash flow from investing activities</b>		<b>(122)</b>	(157)
<b>(Decrease) Increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>(833)</b>	441
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		29,848	29,407
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December</b>		<b>29,015</b>	29,848
<b>Analysis of cash and cash equivalents</b>			
Bank and cash		20,981	22,487
Cash equivalents		8,034	7,361
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December</b>		<b>29,015</b>	29,848



# 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 2024 have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102"), Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the FRS 102 (Charities SORP – FRS 102), and in accordance with the Irish statute comprising the Companies Act 2014.

### Basis of Preparation

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

### Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The Directors have reviewed the 2024 Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet, the approved 2025 budget, the projections for 2026, and the latest financial information. The Directors are satisfied that the Society has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the next 12 months, and as a result are satisfied that there are sufficient resources to manage any operational or financial risks. There is no material uncertainty that affects this assumption.

## INCOME

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Donations and legacies

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

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

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

# Notes to the financial statements (continued)

## 1. Accounting policies (continued)

### Trading activities

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

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

### Investments

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

### Charitable activities

#### Grant income

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

#### Charitable activities reimbursements

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

### Other income

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

## EXPENDITURE

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

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

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

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

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

### Charitable Activities

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

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

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

### Fundraising activities

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

### Trading activities

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



Notes to the financial statements (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

LEASES

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

FUND ACCOUNTING

The Society maintains the following funds.

Restricted funds

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

Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds – general

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

Unrestricted funds – designated

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

TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

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

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

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

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

INVESTMENTS

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

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

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

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

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

All investment income is treated as unrestricted.

STOCK

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

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

ASSETS HELD FOR SALE

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

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

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

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

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

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

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

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

Trade and Other Debtors

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

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

Trade and Other Creditors

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

RETIREMENT BENEFITS

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

TAXATION

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

2. Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

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

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

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



Notes to the financial statements (continued)

3. Income

a) Donations and legacies	2024 Unrestricted €'000	2024 Restricted €'000	2024 Total €'000	2023 Total €'000
Daffodil Day	5,512	175	5,687	5,774
Other national campaigns & donations	5,035	1,500	6,53	6,413
<b>Total national campaigns &amp; donations</b>	<b>10,547</b>	<b>1,675</b>	<b>12,222</b>	<b>12,187</b>
Individual giving	3,765	163	3,928	3,622
Philanthropy & corporate partnerships	2,009	1,811	3,821	2,994
<b>Total Donations</b>	<b>16,321</b>	<b>3,649</b>	<b>19,971</b>	<b>18,803</b>
Legacies	1,986	452	2,438	2,263
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,307</b>	<b>4,101</b>	<b>22,409</b>	<b>21,066</b>

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	2024 Unrestricted €'000	2024 Restricted €'000	2024 Total €'000	2023 Total €'000
Shop income	4,744	-	4,744	4,752
Other trading activities	13	-	13	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,757</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,757</b>	<b>4,765</b>
c) Investments	2024 Unrestricted €'000	2024 Restricted €'000	2024 Total €'000	2023 Total €'000
Investment income	142	-	142	124
Deposit interest	15	-	15	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>126</b>

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

3. Income (continued)

d) Income from charitable activities	2024 Unrestricted €'000	2024 Restricted €'000	2024 Total €'000	2023 Total €'000
Dept. of Health – HSE – Travel2Care – NCCP – annual funding	-	350	350	250
Dept. of Health – HSE – Night Nursing – National Palliative Care Programme – annual funding	-	1,250	1,250	1,250
HSE – once-off funding	-	100	100	38
Other State funding	156	-	156	-
<b>Government grants relating to Charitable Activities</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>1,700</b>	<b>1,856</b>	<b>1,538</b>
Night nursing reimbursements	1,280	-	1,280	1,097
Other	17	-	17	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,453</b>	<b>1,700</b>	<b>3,153</b>	<b>2,652</b>

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

Department of Health HSE Grant income	Travel2Care €'000	Night Nursing €'000
Restricted income carried forward	253	-
Current year income	350	1,350
Carried forward income offset against expenditure	(253)	-
Current year income offset against expenditure	(103)	(1,350)
<b>Restricted income to be carried forward</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>-</b>
Current year income received in current year	350	1,250
Current year income receivable at 31 December 2024	-	100

e) Other income	2024 Unrestricted €'000	2024 Restricted €'000	2024 Total €'000	2023 Total €'000
VAT Compensation Scheme	155	-	155	73
<b>Total</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>73</b>



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.

	2024 Heathy Living	2024 Catching Cancer early	2024 Treating Cancer	2024 Living Well	2024 End of Life Care	2024 Total
	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
<b>Services and Advocacy</b>						
Public and patient awareness and education campaigns	448	448	397	405	210	1,908
Cancer support centre funding*	-	-	443	444	-	887
Transport service	-	-	1,168	-	-	1,168
Travel2Care (NCCP)	-	-	-	356	-	356
Financial support	-	-	-	529	-	529
Patient education programme	-	-	82	-	-	82
Survivorship service	-	-	-	687	-	687
CAYA	-	82	327	408	-	817
Night nursing	-	-	-	-	4,054	4,054
Daffodil centres*	28	82	561	448	23	1,142
Support line*	10	29	202	161	8	410
Programme management	39	39	40	39	39	196
Customer experience	14	13	14	14	14	69
Advocacy	43	116	116	115	43	433
Operating costs	50	64	229	216	169	728
Total direct and operating costs	632	873	3,579	3,822	4,560	13,466
Support costs	172	222	790	744	584	2,512
<b>Total Services and Advocacy</b>	<b>804</b>	<b>1,095</b>	<b>4,369</b>	<b>4,566</b>	<b>5,144</b>	<b>15,978</b>
<b>Research</b>						
Translational	-	100	237	-	-	337
Survivorship	-	-	75	1,527	-	1,602
Trials	-	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Other strategic	-	893	205	(58)	-	1,040
Operating costs	-	187	98	256	-	541
Total direct and operating costs	-	1,180	1,615	1,725	-	4,520
Support costs	-	84	44	115	-	243
<b>Total Research</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,264</b>	<b>1,659</b>	<b>1,840</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,763</b>
<b>Total Charitable Activities</b>	<b>804</b>	<b>2,359</b>	<b>6,028</b>	<b>6,406</b>	<b>5,144</b>	<b>20,741</b>

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

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

	2024 Unrestricted	2024 Restricted	2024 Total	2023 Total
	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
<b>Services and Advocacy</b>				
Public and patient awareness and education campaigns	1,879	29	1,908	1,379
Cancer support centre funding*	586	301	887	959
Transport service	913	255	1,168	1,079
Travel2Care (NCCP)	-	356	356	297
Financial support	247	282	529	560
Patient education programme	82	-	82	120
Survivorship service	687	-	687	625
CAYA	324	493	817	1,050
Night nursing	1,586	2,468	4,054	4,165
Daffodil centres*	908	234	1,142	1,161
Support line*	340	70	410	478
Programme management	196	-	196	197
	69	-	69	-
Advocacy	433	-	433	498
Operating costs	728	-	728	739
Total direct and operating costs	8,978	4,488	13,465	13,306
Support costs	2,512	-	2,512	2,587
<b>Total Services and Advocacy</b>	<b>11,490</b>	<b>4,488</b>	<b>15,978</b>	<b>15,894</b>
<b>Research</b>				
Translational	337	-	377	277
Survivorship	1,493	109	1,602	414
Trials	12	988	1,000	1,018
Other strategic	1,040	-	1,040	2,586
Operating costs	541	-	541	434
Total direct and operating costs	3,423	1,097	4,520	4,729
Support costs	243	-	243	239
<b>Total Research</b>	<b>3,666</b>	<b>1,097</b>	<b>4,763</b>	<b>4,968</b>
<b>Total Charitable Activities</b>	<b>15,156</b>	<b>5,585</b>	<b>20,741</b>	<b>20,862</b>



Notes to the financial statements (continued)

5. Fundraising Activities

Costs comprise the following:	2024 Unrestricted €'000	2024 Restricted €'000	2024 Total €'000	2023 Total €'000
Daffodil Day	1,113	-	1,113	1,149
Other national campaigns and donations	647	-	647	640
<b>Total national campaigns and donations</b>	<b>1,760</b>		<b>1,760</b>	1,789
Individual giving	1,951	-	1,951	1,555
Philanthropy and corporate partnerships	105	-	105	63
<b>Total donations</b>	<b>3,816</b>		<b>3,816</b>	3,407
Legacies	10	-	10	10
<b>Donations and Legacies costs</b>	<b>3,826</b>	-	<b>3,862</b>	3,417
Operating costs	2,280	-	2,280	2,170
<b>Total direct costs</b>	<b>6,106</b>	-	<b>6,106</b>	5,587
Investment management costs	66	-	66	59
Support costs (Note 6)	1,297	-	1,297	1,154
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,469</b>	-	<b>7,469</b>	6,800

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

6. Support Costs

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

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

- 62% (2023: 65%) to Services and Advocacy
- 32% (2022: 29%) to Fundraising
- 6% (2023:6%) to Research

	2024 Services and Advocacy €'000	2024 Research €'000	2024 Fundraising €'000	2024 Total €'000	2023 Total €'000
Information Technology	1,029	100	531	1,660	1,483
Finance + Legal	531	51	274	856	850
Human Resources + Volunteering	391	38	202	631	673
Other	561	54	290	905	974
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,512</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>1,297</b>	<b>4,052</b>	3,980

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

Included in the support costs are the following governance costs:

	2024 €'000	2023 €'000
Legal and professional fees	28	56
Audit fees	35	35
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	91

7. Research Grants

Expenditure on the following grants was charged in 2024:

Recipient	Project Description	€'000
Cancer Trials Ireland	Partnership funding for 2024	1,000
Trinity College / St James's	Young Onset Cancer Programme Phase 0	927
Beaumont / RCSI	Lung cancer research programme	870
Trinity College / St James's	Nurse Navigator Pilot Phase 1	200
Miss Kate Duffy	University College Dublin, Translational Research PhD Scholarship 2024 (co-funded by the IACR)	180
Miss Noreena Coyle	Dublin City University, Underserved Communities in Cancer Research PhD Scholarship 2024	160
Trinity College / St James's	Clinician Research Leadership Award 2024	150
Prof Michael O'Dwyer	University of Galway, HRCI Health Research Board Joint Funding Scheme 2024 (Co-funded by the HRB)	150
Ms Niamh O'Callaghan	Atlantic Technological University, Survivorship Research PhD Scholarship 2024 (co-funded by the IACR)	140
Dr David O'Reilly	RCSI University of Medicine and Health Science, Clinician Research Development Fellowship 2024	99
Dr Jean McBryan	RCSI University of Medicine and Health Science, Cancer Research Seed Funding Award 2024	75
Dr Eimaeear Mylod	Trinity College Dublin, Cancer Research Seed Funding Award 2024	75
Ms Rachael Keating	Trinity College Dublin, Cancer Research Seed Funding Award 2024	75
Ms Aoife McGovern	Trinity College Dublin, Allied Health Professional Award 2024	75
Prof Jack Gleeson	University College Cork, LIAM MC Trial Support Pack (supported by Pfizer)	35
Various	Various research PPI grants, awards and student grants	42
Various	Prior years research grants unused / cancelled and returned	(274)
Operating Costs	Management of tenders, review and oversight	541
Total direct costs		4,520
Support and central costs	(Note 6)	243
Total		4,763

The summary above includes research contracts entered into and recognised in 2024. Additionally, the Society has entered into a number of multi-annual research commitments; a portion of these have not yet been recognised in the Society's income and expenditure account (see Note 16).

Grant recipients typically receive payments over the period of the grant which is determined by the conditions of the underlying agreement. During the year 188 researchers worked on research projects funded by the Society (2023: 188).

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 systems 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 €13.2m fund comprises €5.7m representing the total value of multi-annual research commitments that have yet to be recognised in the Society's income and expenditure account, and €7.5m representing three months worth of expenditure on a €30.0m annual expenditure basis.

	Opening Balance as at 01/01/2024 €'000	Income/ Expenditure 2024 €'000	Transfers 2024 €'000	Closing Balance as at 31/12/2024 €'000
Research	8,800	(3,100)	-	5,700
Expenditure	-	-	7,500	7,500
	8,800	(3,100)	7,500	13,200

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 01/01/2024 €'000	Income 2024 €'000	Expenditure 2024 €'000	Transfers 2024 €'000	Closing Balance as at 31/12/2024 €'000
Breast cancer	-	1,200	(1,078)	-	122
Prostate cancer	-	34	(34)	-	-
Travel2Care grants (State)	253	350	(356)	-	247
Research	-	1088	(988)	-	100
Nursing*	-	2,300	(2,300)	-	-
Children's fund	-	282	(282)	-	-
Children's fund - other	-	493	(493)	-	-
Survivorship	-	34	(34)	-	-
Reduce the risk	-	20	(20)	-	-
Total	253	5,801	(5,585)	-	469

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

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

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

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

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

Children's fund Gen: to fund research and support services (including financial support) for children affected by cancer.

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

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

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

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



Notes to the financial statements (continued)

8. Analysis of Charitable Funds (continued)

c) Analysis of Movement in Unrestricted Funds

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

	Opening Balance as at 01/01/2024 €'000	Income 2024 €'000	Expenditure 2024 €'000	Transfers 2024 €'000	Gains 2024 €'000	Closing Balance as at 31/12/2024 €'000
General fund	21,165	24,830	26,175	(4,400)	597	16,017

d) Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Restricted Funds €'000	Designated Unrestricted Funds €'000	General Unrestricted Funds €'000	Total 2024 €'000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	8,039	8,039
Current assets	469	13,200	16,989	30,658
Current and long-term liabilities	-	-	(9,011)	(9,011)
<b>Total</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>13,200</b>	<b>16,018</b>	<b>29,686</b>

In respect of prior year:

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

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

9. Net Income for the Financial Year

	2024 €'000	2023 €'000
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation	396	426
Auditor's remuneration:		
- Audit of financial statements	35	35
- Other assurance services	5	5
- Tax advisory services	-	-
- Other non-audit services	-	-
Directors' remuneration	-	-
Profit on sale of fixed assets	2	-
Operating lease charge	747	744

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:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Charitable activities	73	76
Charitable activities – night nursing	41	44
Fundraising	34	32
Charity shops	45	44
Support	39	37
<b>Total</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>233</b>

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

11. Employees and Remuneration (continued)

**Night Nursing:**  
The Society employs Night Nurses to provide free end-of-life care in patients' homes. In 2024 193 (2023: 206) nurses were employed for at least one night. The average number of nurses in 2024 was 113 (2023: 118); this equates to 41 (2023: 44) nurses on a full-time equivalent basis.

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2024 €'000	2023 €'000
Salaries	12,983	12,742
Social welfare costs	1,351	1,317
DC pension scheme employer contributions (Note 19)	653	623
Permanent health, life assurance and DC pension scheme costs	230	149
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,217</b>	<b>14,831</b>

In 2024 there were redundancy costs of €nil (2023: €54,623).

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

	2024 Number	2023 Number
€60,000 - €70,000	19	19
€70,001 - €80,000	8	3
€80,001 - €90,000	5	9
€90,001 - €100,000	4	1
€100,001 - €110,000	1	1
€110,001 - €120,000	-	-
€120,001 - €130,000	-	-
€130,001 - €140,000	-	-
€140,001 - €150,000	-	-
> €150,001	1	1

Key management personnel is defined as the CEO and the members of the executive leadership team. The total emoluments (including benefits, pension and redundancy) paid to key management personnel in 2024 was €751,871 (2023: €705,378 ).

In 2024 the CEO was paid a salary of €145,004 (2023: €140,044) and a travel allowance of €10,000 (2023: €10,000). The Society contributed 20% (2023: 20%) of the CEO's salary to the defined contribution pension scheme.

**Director expenses:**

Directors receive no remuneration for their services. Out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with their duties may be claimed. In 2024 the Society made payments of €Nil (2023: €Nil) in relation to out-of-pocket expenses.

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

12. Tangible Assets

	Freehold Premises €'000	Computer Fixtures & Fittings €'000	Motor Vehicles €'000	Furniture & Equipment €'000	Equipment & Software €'000	Total €'000
<b>Cost:</b>						
At 01/01/2024	13,283	313	36	381	1,395	15,408
Additions	-	94	-	5	38	137
Disposals	-	(4)	-	(4)	(185)	(193)
<b>At 31/12/2024</b>	<b>13,283</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>1,248</b>	<b>15,352</b>

<b>Depreciation:</b>						
At 01/01/2024	5,257	207	18	330	1,296	7,108
Charge for financial year	265	26	9	17	79	396
Disposals	-	(3)	-	(4)	(184)	(191)
<b>At 31/12/2024</b>	<b>5,522</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>1,191</b>	<b>7,313</b>

<b>Net book amounts:</b>						
<b>At 31/12/2024</b>	<b>7,761</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>8,039</b>

Net book amounts:						
At 31/12/2023	8,026	106	18	51	99	8,300

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 2024 was €13,000 (2023: €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

	2024 €'000	2023 €'000
At 1 January	7,361	6,664
Gain/(loss) on investments	597	632
Investment income	142	124
Management fees	(66)	(59)
At 31 December	8,034	7,361

The funds are held in the following classes of investments:

	2024 €'000	2023 €'000
Cash and cash equivalents	335	321
Listed investments	7,577	6,903
Other investments	122	137
Total	8,034	7,361

	2024 €	2023 €
Investment in Subsidiary (Note 22):		
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 investments is supported by its underlying net assets. The net assets of Irish Cancer Society Research Limited were €3 at 31 December 2024 (2023: €3).

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

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

14. Debtors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	2024 €'000	2023 €'000
Trade and other debtors	201	344
Accrued income	651	591
221+ support group balance due	-	14
Prepayments	591	611
Total	1,443	1,560

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

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

15. Creditors

Amounts falling due within one year:

	2024 €'000	2023 €'000
Trade and other creditors	485	792
Accruals	660	729
221+ support group funds held in trust	1	-
Payroll taxes	330	356
Instalments due on research and services grants payable	4,855	4,558
Total	6,331	6,435

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

Amounts falling due after more than one year:

	2024 €'000	2023 €'000
Instalments due under research and services grants payable	2,680	3,245

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

16. Grant Commitments And Provisions

	31/12/2024 €'000	31/12/2023 €'000
Balance at 1 January	7,803	6,542
New grants awarded	4,554	4,893
Grants refunded	(49)	(73)
Grants disbursed	(4,744)	(3,559)
<b>Balance at 31 December</b>	<b>7,534</b>	<b>7,803</b>
Classified as:		
Due within 1 year	4,854	4,558
Due after 1 year	2,680	3,245
<b>Balance at 31 December</b>	<b>7,534</b>	<b>7,803</b>

TThe Society is engaged in a number of multi-annual research grant commitments with Cancer Trials Ireland, Trinity St James's Cancer Institute, and BRCSI, amounting to a total investment of €12.4m. These grants are being accounted for in annual instalments over the period from 2023 to 2028, in line with the respective agreements, timelines, and relevant performance-related conditions, as established. €5.7m was held in the designated fund at the end of 2024 in relation to these commitments. This balance represents the level of multi-annual research grant commitments that have yet to be recognised in the Society's income and expenditure account, in accordance with the Society's accounting policy (see Note 8).

17. Financial Instruments

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

	2024 €'000	2023 €'000
<b>Financial Assets</b>		
Measured at fair value through profit or loss	8,034	7,361
Current asset listed investments (see Note 13)		
Measured at undiscounted amount receivable	201	344
Trade and other debtors (see Note 14)		
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,235</b>	<b>7,705</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>		
Measured at undiscounted amount payable	8,021	8,595
Trade and other payables (see Note 15)		
The Society's income, expense, gains and losses in respect of financial instruments are summarised below:		
	2024 €'000	2023 €'000
<b>Fair value gains and (losses)</b>		
On financial assets measured at fair value through statement of financial activity	597	632

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

18. Cash Flow Statement

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

	2024 €'000	2023 €'000
<b>Net income for the financial year</b>	<b>(532)</b>	<b>(1,639)</b>
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation	396	426
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	2	-
Increase in creditors	(669)	1,435
Decrease in stock	(10)	3
Increase / (decrease) in debtors	117	375
Deposit interest	(15)	(2)
<b>Cash (used)/generated by operations</b>	<b>(711)</b>	<b>598</b>

b) Net debt

The Society had no borrowings or obligations under finance leases as at 31 December 2024 (2023: none).

19. Retirement benefit schemes

Defined Contribution Scheme

The Society operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the organisation in an independently administered fund. The organisation made contributions of €652,596 (2023: €622,998) during the financial year. The amount outstanding at the financial year end was €112,965 (2023: €115,157). The outstanding balances are held on the Balance Sheet under creditors.

20. Constitution

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

21. Operating Leases

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

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

	2024 €'000	2023 €'000
Within one year	547	530
Between one and five years	980	1,007
More than five years	12	47
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,539</b>	<b>1,584</b>



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 22. Financial Assets

The Society’s subsidiary, Irish Cancer Society Research Limited, was incorporated in Ireland in 1991 and the address of its registered office is 43-45 Northumberland Road, Dublin 4. Irish Cancer Society Research Limited was engaged in the business of sale of Christmas cards. The Company ceased trading at the end of 2013. As Irish Cancer Society Research Limited did not trade during 2024 and has insignificant net assets, consolidated financial statements have not been prepared.

### 23. Related Parties

There were no related party transactions in 2024.

### 24. Post Balance Sheet Events

There have been no events subsequent to the year-end that require any adjustment to, or additional disclosure in, the 2024 financial statements.

### 25. Political Donations

The Society made no political donations during 2024.

### 26. Approval Of Financial Statements

These financial statements were approved by the Board on \_\_\_\_\_.

## 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

Prof Sinead Brennan  
Bríd Horan  
Irene O’Gorman  
Ger Penny  
Alex White  
Allan Kearns  
Dr. Mary Canavan  
Maria Fleming  
Prof. Janice Walshe (appointed 10th January 2024)  
Jim Dollard (appointed 20th May 2025)

### CHAIR

Bríd Horan

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Averil Power

### COMPANY SECRETARY

Emma Browne

### BANKERS

AIB Bank, 9 Terenure Road, Rathgar, Dublin 6

### SOLICITORS

Hayes Solicitors, Lavery House, Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2

### INVESTMENT ADVISERS

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

### AUDITORS

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

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