



**We
Won't
Stop**

Annual Report
2025

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.

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Sophia-Grace

Read Sophia-Grace Conway's
story on page

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Kate

Read Kate Duffy's
story on page

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Richard

Read Richard Kennedy's
story on page

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Our vision

By 2025, 3 out of 4 cancer patients in Ireland 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.

Our 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.

Our 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.

Childhood cancer survivor
Nicole Keyes with her parents
Shirley Keyes and Noel Keyes





Paul Byrne and the Walkdeles

Charity of the Year Winner 2025 at the Charity Excellence Awards

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.

A message from our Chair and Interim CEO



Allan Kearns, Chair of the Irish Cancer Society Board and Edel Shovlin, Irish Cancer Society Interim CEO

Allan and Edel

2025 was a year of tremendous success for the Irish Cancer Society, bringing us ever closer to our goal of ensuring no one in Ireland has to face cancer alone.

Charity of the year

Our proudest moment this year was being recognised as Charity of the Year 2025 at the Charity Excellence Awards. Our team works incredibly hard to ensure that our supports and services are available to anyone that needs them and for them to be recognised on a national stage was a special occasion.

Increasing our vital services

Over 1,600 Irish Cancer Society volunteers drove 2.9 million kilometres bringing over 2,800 cancer patients to and from almost 29,900 procedures.

Our free nationwide counselling service provided more than 14,000 counselling sessions to over 2,700 people affected by cancer. Our Support Line, which provides confidential advice, support and information from a Cancer Nurse to anyone affected by cancer, had more than 9,700 contacts throughout 2025, while a further 16,900 conversations took place with our Cancer Nurses in the Society's Daffodil Centres nationwide. Almost 6,000 nights of end-of-life nursing care were provided to almost 1,800 patients in their own home.

Keeping cancer a priority

We made sure that cancer care was at the top of the political agenda through continuous engagement with policymakers. We have been vocal on a range of issues such as sunbeds, novel nicotine products, HPV vaccinations, supports for people living beyond a cancer diagnosis and the need for politicians to provide ringfenced, multiannual funding for cancer care.

In 2025, the Beaumont RCSI Irish Cancer Society Lung Health Check launched and was a key moment for the entire team. The Lung Health Check aims to show the life-saving benefits of lung screening for patients in Ireland. Our vital services and our advocacy work are made possible because of the dedication and commitment of our volunteers, fundraisers and amazing donors.

The Society is a community of people all working together to create a brighter future for those affected by cancer, with the aim of one day reaching our goal of no one in Ireland dying from cancer. Until then, we will continue to be there for those who need us at the end of the phone on our Support Line, in our Daffodil Centres in hospitals right across the country, and in the counselling services we fund.

Supporting groundbreaking research

As the largest voluntary funder of cancer research in the State, we will also continue to fund research to develop kinder, gentler treatments and give people affected by cancer more Christmases, birthdays, and precious moments with their loved ones.

Building on a strong foundation

We would like to extend our gratitude to the previous CEO Averil Power who did phenomenal work leading the Society for the last eight years. We would also like to recognise the significant contribution of Brid Horan who served as Chair of the Board for the last five years.

2026 will bring new challenges and opportunities, but our commitment to amplifying the voices of people affected by cancer and making sure we're there for them when they need us will continue to be paramount, particularly under the stewardship of our new CEO Nikki Gallagher.

We warmly thank all those who volunteer, donate or otherwise support the Society. We are grateful to the members of the Board and Committees who give freely of their expertise and time throughout the year. We are also thankful to the management and staff of the Society who work tirelessly in the Society to improve the outcomes of everyone affected by cancer.

Edel Shovlin
Irish Cancer Society Interim CEO

Allan Kearns
Chair of the Irish Cancer Society Board

Our impact in 2025

29,900

Drives to and from cancer treatment provided

2,850

Total patients driven to appointments

2,250

Health checks conducted at our early detection roadshow

1,800

Total cancer patients who received Night Nursing service

2,850

Participants in Patient Education

800

Welfare and Supports service users

294,650

Social media followers (Facebook, X, Instagram and LinkedIn)

458 million

Total media reach



Joan Browne, Buttons and Katie Browne



Chantal Halley, winner of the Support Staff of the Year Award at the Irish Cancer Society Research Awards 2025

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



Daffodil Day 2025 Ambassador
Tara Doonan speaking at the
launch of Daffodil Day

Highlights 2025

Charity of the Year 2025

In October, we were incredibly humbled and proud to have been awarded Charity of the Year 2025 at an event hosted by the Charities Institute Ireland in Dublin. This award is great recognition for the hard work our teams, both on the front line and behind the scenes, put in to ensure that we are delivering the best possible supports and services to anyone facing a cancer diagnosis in Ireland.



David Johnson, Patricia Higgins,
Russell Keating of Airticity

Launch of Lung Health Check

In March 2025, the Irish Cancer Society launched the largest single investment in Lung Cancer in Ireland, the Beaumont RCSI Irish Cancer Society Lung Health Check. The pilot will test the feasibility of mobile scanning units in the community for early detection of lung cancer. We began piloting the free Lung Health Check for individuals at high risk of lung cancer in North Dublin and the Northeast region, and it is already saving lives.

Daffodil Day 2025

Daffodil Day 2025 was a phenomenal success, raising an incredible €6.6 million, making it the most successful Daffodil Day in our history. Our supporters' presence in every corner of Ireland, ensured every town and village turned daffodil yellow to raise millions of euro and give hope to people affected by cancer across Ireland.

Relay For Life 2025

2025 became a year of 'firsts' for Relay For Life and was an enormous success. It marked the first time Relay For Life in Ireland reached €1.6 million in fundraising, the first Relay For Life corporate event in the country took place, we held our first Relay For Life events in Sligo and in Westmeath, and we held our first static bike-based Relay For Life in Kiltarnan, South Dublin.

Addressing the Joint Oireachtas Committee

The Irish Cancer Society addressed the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Health in October 2025, outlining how chronic cancer delays and missed targets in the National Cancer Strategy underlined the importance of ringfenced multiannual funding for cancer care.

We also highlighted infrastructure gaps and called for urgent clarity in relation to funding for cancer care, how it will be dispersed across the regions and how funding should be driven strategically by the National Cancer Control Programme.

Right to be Forgotten

After three years of campaigning, the Irish Cancer Society welcomed, as a major step forward, the bringing of 'Right to be Forgotten' legislation to Cabinet in July 2025. While a major step in the right direction, the proposed legislation did not encompass all of the Irish Cancer Society's asks on behalf of cancer survivors and their families. The Society continued its campaigning and engagement with Government throughout 2025 to amend the legislation to improve wider access to financial services products for cancer survivors.

Westlife star and national Relay
for Life ambassador Shane Filan
launching Relay For Life 2025



Report of the Board

Our strategic 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.



Marcia Miranda,
street sales volunteer
on Daffodil Day 2025



Childhood cancer survivor Nicole Keyes in the Taoiseach's office with An Taoiseach Micheál Martin

Strategic review

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

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 was 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

2025 marked the final year of our 2020–2025 organisational strategy. Due to many factors, including welcoming a new CEO, a number of new board members, and that the strategic objectives remained highly relevant to meeting the needs of everyone affected by cancer into 2026, the decision was made to roll-over our existing strategy for one more year. When this strategy was first developed, none of us could have foreseen the extent of the challenges that lay ahead – most notably the COVID-19 pandemic and its profound impact on cancer services, research, fundraising and community wellbeing. Despite this, the core principles of the strategy have stood strong: reducing the risk of cancer, catching it earlier, supporting world-class treatment, improving survivorship, and ensuring compassionate end-of-life care.

Responding to the challenges of the last 5 years

Over these five years, the Society adapted rapidly and repeatedly. We expanded remote and digital supports, worked with health partners to highlight and address delays in screening and diagnosis, strengthened our community outreach in the years that followed, and advocated relentlessly for investment to restore and improve cancer services. This period has tested the resilience of patients, families and health professionals – and the Society has responded with the same resilience, compassion and determination.

As we move forward into a new era and strategy, we continue to be 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.

2025 was a year of continued pressure for many affected by cancer. Patients and families continued to experience significant financial strain, including higher household bills and lost income. Our nurses, Support Line and Daffodil Centre teams heard daily how these pressures affected people's wellbeing. In response, we strengthened financial and practical supports, expanded our Transport Service, and continued to provide compassionate Night Nursing care in people's homes. Our focus on advocacy also saw progress on legislating the Right to be Forgotten after cancer and the inclusion of several of our recommendations in the 2025 Programme for Government.

Investing in a brighter future

We also saw the advancement of the Irish Cancer Society funded, 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. We began piloting a free lung health check for individuals at high risk of lung cancer in North Dublin and the Northeast region. This lifesaving initiative has already identified participants with early lung cancer who have now had curative surgery and are cancer free. We hope this impactful pilot will pave the way for a national lung health check programme for everyone at risk.

Supported by our €4.5 million research investment and partnership, Trinity St James's Cancer Institute were awarded OECI Comprehensive Cancer Status this year. This is the first Comprehensive Cancer Centre in Ireland and places Ireland and Trinity St James's Cancer Institute at the forefront of cancer care with other leading cancer centres across Europe.

As we approach the end of this strategic period, we recognise there is still more to do to support people with cancer all over Ireland and we are looking forward to establishing our next strategic focuses.

Achieving our goals

In 2025, we set out to progress 35 new objectives and support our mission: save lives and improve the lives of people affected by cancer in Ireland. Progress for our 2025 objectives is detailed under each of the strategic priorities.

Objectives achieved: Where objectives are achieved in 2025, we will continue to build on this work into 2026 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 in progress: Where objectives remain in progress and are ongoing goals that we will continue to work on into 2026 and beyond.

Objectives not achieved/postponed: This was where we were agile enough to respond to external factors that impeded our progress, by pivoting and focusing our resources and energy on emerging or more urgent challenges.



Patient advocate Bernard Mahon from Kildare is pictured at Irish Cancer Society pre Budget 2026 Oireachtas Briefing





Healthy Living

Our goal

We are working toward a future where there are fewer diagnoses of preventable cancers.

Our plan

To achieve this we will influence Government policy and legislation 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.



Ribbon cutting at Sligo Relay For Life 2025 by cancer survivors Donal Parsons, Georgie Gorman, committee member Sile Nic Suibhna, Mary Cullen and Peter Keating

Our impact

Throughout the year, the Irish Cancer Society continued to champion policies that create healthier environments, protect young people, and reduce inequalities that drive cancer risk.

Following extensive engagement with political parties throughout the 2024 General Election, many of our recommendations were included in the **Programme for Government**, which, for the first time, contained a dedicated section on cancer. These commitments signal that cancer prevention, early detection and survivorship will remain priority areas across the lifetime of the Government.

The Society achieved a major prevention win with the reinstatement of a national **HPV vaccination catch-up programme**. Having campaigned for equitable access to HPV protection, we welcomed the HSE's 2026 Service Plan announcement in December, which confirmed the first phase of catch-up delivery for 5th and 6th Year students. This will help protect more young people from HPV-related cancers and supports Ireland's progress toward cervical cancer elimination.

As secretariat of the **Oireachtas Cross-Party Group on Cancer**, we reconstituted the Group following the 2024 election and welcomed Deputy Roderic O'Gorman as the new Chair. Throughout 2025, we briefed Oireachtas members on topics including cancer services, alcohol labelling, and financial protections for survivors. We also met with Ministers across Health, Finance, Climate, Transport, and Social Protection to advocate for policies that support cancer prevention and reduce health inequalities.

Achieving against our objectives

OBJECTIVE	RESULTS	PROGRESS
Advocate for proposed legislation on vaping and eCigarettes to be enacted.	We secured a commitment from the Government to address this through legislation, beginning an important step in protecting young people from nicotine addiction and long-term health risks.	Achieved
Raise awareness of health impacts of unhealthy/processed foods and advocate for changes to how unhealthy/processed foods are marketed.	Decision to postpone due to focus on other priority areas.	Postponed
Continue to highlight barriers to healthcare across Ireland via our healthcare access survey.	Research activated and work underway.	In progress
Educate people about how to prevent cancer through community-level engagement.	As part of our integrated cancer awareness early detection and prevention programmes, we delivered 73 presentations in community settings in 2025, alongside our Roadshows and workplace programmes.	Achieved



Childhood cancer survivor
Sophia-Grace Conway (centre)
with her parents Michelle Kelly
and Martin Conway

Sophia-Grace

"Sophia-Grace was constantly getting sick. I knew there was something wrong. Her eyes had sunken in, she was so pale and she just looked sick."

At age three, Sophia-Grace Conway received her first cancer diagnosis after a brain tumour was discovered during a scan. The young girl then had two cancer recurrences, one in 2019 and another in 2020. After finishing treatment in 2021, she struggled with anxiety and linked in with the Irish Cancer Society's Creative Arts Therapy service.

"She had eight art therapy sessions and now she's doing really well, she's a lot better," says Sophia-Grace's mam, Michelle. "She didn't talk to me much about what was going on, but she'd get very anxious going into school – she'd be crying or she'd get sick, but I know she opened up about it in art therapy."

"She had a great bond with the art therapist, and I could see a turning point with Sophia. When she went to school after going to therapy, she was a lot less anxious – it was like she was a completely different child."

Sophia-Grace is now doing well, and Michelle said her family benefited from the Irish Cancer Society's Children's Fund as it helped them financially when herself and her partner had to give up work during their daughter's treatment.

"The Children's Fund made a huge difference, because there were a lot of costs with going from our home in Kildare to Temple Street and St Luke's. Myself and my partner had to stop working, and I became Sophia's carer, so the extra money made a huge difference."

Michelle is sharing her experience to encourage other parents to be persistent if they notice any symptoms of concern in their children.

"I would tell any parents who notice concerning symptoms in their children to be persistent, and go with your own gut if you feel something is wrong."

Michelle Kelly, mother of cancer survivor Sophia-Grace Conway



Catching Cancer Early

Our goal

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

Our plan

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.

Our impact

Early detection remains one of the most powerful ways in improving cancer outcomes. Throughout the year, we expanded our reach into communities, workplaces and marginalised settings, providing people with the information, confidence and support they need to recognise symptoms, attend screening and seek help early.

Our **'Your Health Matters' Roadshows** grew significantly again this year, reflecting the dedication of our nurses, volunteers and community partners. In 2025, we held 40 Roadshow events across 12 counties and conducted 2,250 health checks. 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.

Workplaces remain one of our most effective platforms for reaching large and diverse groups of people. We delivered **150 presentations and information stands**, reaching over 17,000 employees. These sessions were delivered across sectors – from global companies like EY, JP Morgan, Dell and Pfizer, to national employers such as ESB, Primark and Centra, as well as smaller organisations, county councils and Government Departments.

Reducing health inequalities remains central to our early detection strategy. Many communities continue to face barriers in accessing information, healthcare and screening. In 2025:

- We delivered **73 community-based** engagements reaching **6,250 people**, with a strong focus on areas of deprivation.
- Our nurses deepened **partnerships** with organisations such as the Irish Men's Sheds Association, Sláintecare Healthy Communities, the Capuchin Day Centre, and migrant-led community groups.
- We continued our involvement in the Irish Cancer Prevention Network, the HSE QUIT service, and national men's health partnerships to support coordinated, community-driven outreach.

These collaborations ensure that people who are traditionally underserved have equitable access to information, support and early detection opportunities.

Alongside our services and outreach work, we continued to invest in research that advances early detection in Ireland. Our partnership with **Beaumont and RCSI** progressed the **Lung Health Check** pilot. In 2025, our funded researcher Sophie Mulcahy Symmons completed her PhD co designing solutions to promote awareness of cervical screening with women of low socioeconomic position living in urban areas.



Pádraig Ó Ruairc and Ciaran Moran from the Irish Cancer Society's Welfare and Supports Team

Achieving our objectives

Prevention and detection

OBJECTIVE	RESULTS	PROGRESS
Continue to deliver the Roadshow initiative to reach communities and deliver at least 40 days in 2025.	Roadshows operated for 40 days in 2025. Reach grew with 8% more health checks conducted.	Achieved
Continue to deliver integrated cancer awareness public campaigns, and educate people through this work.	Delivered five key cancer awareness campaigns to highlight the importance of early detection of the 5 most prevalent cancers in Ireland.	Achieved
Recruit and train cancer awareness volunteers within communities to support awareness activities and campaigns.	We continued to deliver cancer awareness activities with the support of volunteers, including our Roadshows, outreach in the Capuchin Day Centre, and community talks.	Achieved
Commence the Irish Cancer Society BRCSI lung health check roadshow to improve early detection of lung cancer.	We worked in partnership with Beaumont and RCSI to commence the Lung Cancer Health Check. Lung assessments and scans took place within mobile scanning units across the northeast.	Achieved
Fund world-class cancer research programmes specifically focused on improving the early detection rates of cancer.	We invested €380K specifically focused on research to improve the early detection of cancer including a project aimed at co-designing a patient centred safety netting toolkit for earlier cancer diagnosis in General Practice.	Achieved
Continue to develop and distribute new workplace cancer awareness resources and extend our reach.	Resources were reviewed and updated. Increased reach delivering 67 presentations to over 11,300 people in corporate settings in 2025, more than doubling the figures achieved in 2024.	Achieved



Linda Wilson, Daffodil Centre nurse

Irish Cancer Society-funded researcher Kate Duffy



Kate

"Prostate cancer spreading to the bone can have a detrimental effect, as the survival rates for metastatic prostate cancer are only at 35% five years after diagnosis. My work is looking at understanding how cancer cells know to spread from the prostate to the bone, as that's where advanced prostate cancer usually spreads to."

Kate Duffy from Athlone is a PhD student based in UCD. Her Irish Cancer Society-funded research looks at understanding why prostate cancer typically spreads to the bones, with the aim of preventing it from occurring.

"Prostate cancer is very common in Ireland and there's been lots of research into treatment," says Kate. "Some patients recover from prostate cancer but for others it can come back and spread around their body after treatment. The cancer spreading is what makes prostate cancer a leading cause of cancer-related death in men in Ireland."

"The aim of the project is to understand how prostate cancer spreads to the bone, so we can prevent that happening. Treatment for primary prostate cancer is very good and making sure that patients don't have relapses is an important part of the project."

In the summer of 2023, Kate was awarded an Irish Cancer Society Summer Studentship for a project looking at the use of liquid biopsies to detect cervical cancer. This experience cemented her resolve to work in cancer research.

"The Irish Cancer Society Summer Studentship sealed the deal for me – I knew I wanted to work in cancer research then," she says. "I was involved in a project to do with cervical cancer for that one, and I knew I definitely wanted to stay in cancer research."

One of the other aspects of working in cancer research that appeals to Kate is seeing and understanding the different ways people respond to cancer and cancer treatment.

"Every person is so different, even at a cellular level," says Kate. "When it comes to treating cancer, there isn't one solution for everybody. Every person, and every cancer, is so specific. It's important that we understand how things happen so we can use that information to inform the treatments that are used."

**Kate Duffy
Researcher**



Treating Cancer

Our goal

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

Our plan

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.

Our impact

Throughout the year, demand for trusted information, emotional support and practical help remained strong. Our services continued to offer clarity, reassurance and connection at moments when they are most needed.

Our cancer nurses, whether on the **Support Line, online, or in our Daffodil Centres** in hospitals around the country, remain a lifeline for individuals and families affected by cancer. They held **26,750 support conversations**, providing reliable information, guidance and a safe, understanding space to talk about fears, symptoms, treatment decisions and the emotional toll of cancer. Our Cancer Nurses facilitated patient education workshops, both online and in-person, aiming to reach as many people as possible. Through our **Chemotherapy Education sessions**, cancer nurses provided information for people about to start chemotherapy including what the treatment is, how it is given, managing side-effects, and available supports.

Our **Transport Service** expanded again in 2025, ensuring that more people than ever could access treatment and related appointments without financial or logistical burden. Our volunteer drivers gave 29,900 lifts to patients. Over 1,600 drivers volunteered their time and kindness, which is central to this service. Their contribution eases the strain on patients and families, particularly those facing long travel distances, limited public transport options or the high cost of repeated journeys.

The **221+ Group**, supported by the Irish Cancer Society, continued to implement its strategic plan, ensuring women affected by the CervicalCheck failures receive high-quality advocacy, information and assistance. A new grant agreement with the Department of Health for 2025 secured ongoing support for members and reinforced our shared commitment to women's health and patient advocacy.

Research remains at the heart of our ambition to make world-class treatment a reality. We continued to fund innovative projects across Ireland focused on improving therapies, advancing personalised treatment, and strengthening clinical understanding of complex cancers.

We also maintained our annual €1 million partnership with **Cancer Trials Ireland**, supporting access to cutting-edge clinical trials for patients and studies in Ireland across a range of cancer types and trial areas. This year, we undertook a comprehensive external review of our partnership with Cancer Trials Ireland. Based on the findings, strong recommendations were made to continue and deepen the partnership. As a result, we are committed to continue to support expanded trial opportunities and strengthening Ireland's role in international cancer research.

We continued to invest in Phase 2 of Precision Oncology Ireland consortium. Through a €0.5m Irish Cancer Society investment, researchers in UCD aim to develop precision medicine approaches for head and neck cancer.

Achieving our objectives

Treatment

OBJECTIVE	RESULTS	PROGRESS
Continue to deliver quality support conversations conducted by our nurses on the Support Line and in Daffodil Centres.	Across both services, 26,750 support conversations took place in 2025.	Achieved
Ensure the delivery of the goals and objectives of our TSJCI Partnership.	Our funded Clinician Research Leader continued to research new technologies to develop more personalised options and treatments for people with oesophageal and gastric cancer.	Achieved
Maintain our partnership with Cancer Trials Ireland and support measures to increase the number of patients on cancer trials.	Throughout this partnership, we saw an increase in patient accrual and cancer trials opened in Ireland. Over 4,700 patients recruited across 375 active studies.	Achieved
Develop a comprehensive Transport Enhancement Plan focusing on strategy, resourcing, and processes improvements while continuing to deliver our Transport service.	We developed a new three-year Transport Strategy outlining our goals and objectives for the future of the service.	Achieved
Formulate an advocacy plan for the National Cancer Strategy, prioritising cancer as a key issue for the new Government.	The Irish Cancer Society advocated for resourcing to support the implementation of the National Cancer Strategy throughout 2025. Our advocacy included meetings with the Minister for Health, Department of Health officials and TDs and Senators, recommendations in our pre-budget submission, and an appearance at the Oireachtas Committee on Health.	Achieved
Collaborate with UCD on the CAYA Advocacy welfare project to research state-funded supports for parents with children with cancer.	Narrative report has been drafted with final review to be completed.	Achieved
Provide care kits to support families of children with cancer and young adults on their cancer journeys, offering comfort and practical assistance.	Continued our ongoing support to families of children with cancer and young adults by providing our care kits.	Achieved

Brían French, brother of late musician Talos who passed away from cancer in 2024 and whose song 'We Didn't Know We Were Ready' was released as the song for Daffodil Day 2025, with the Irish Cancer Society's Director of Clinical Affairs Amy Nolan





Cancer survivor
Richard Kennedy with
his beloved canine
companion Peppa

Richard

"In March 2023, I was forgetting my name. I hit a real low point. I was in hospital, I was very low, and at one point I said to the nurse, I don't think I'll get out of this. They were concerned for my welfare, so they got support for me from the Irish Cancer Society."

Richard Kennedy, 63, a Limerick man living in Dublin found the months after he finished treatment for lymphoma in his duodenum particularly difficult, but being linked in with support from the Irish Cancer Society helped him as he navigated being back home and outside of hospital.

"When you're in hospital, you have regular daily visits from doctors and nurses, but when you're at home, suddenly, you're on your own," he says. "I was referred to Lisa from the Irish Cancer Society. Lisa was fantastic. I never felt embarrassed when I was talking to her, I was really comfortable chatting to her. It felt like I had somebody in my corner, giving me advice."

One of the side-effects of Richard's treatment included difficulty eating, and Veronica from the Irish Cancer Society guided him through this and helped him to enjoy food again.

"We discovered that if I was eating food, it needed to have sauce on it so I could swallow it. I'd been getting upset with myself for not eating, but Veronica changed my mindset and gave me tips. She let me know that it was OK to have things like flavoured water, and she told me to drink water earlier in the day so I wouldn't wake up at night, and my sleep wouldn't be disrupted."

Richard also benefited from using the Irish Cancer Society's counselling service and says it provided him with a positive outlook and more insight into the difficulties he was facing.

"There were times when the counsellor asked me how I was feeling, and I remember telling him I didn't think I was as tolerant as I used to be, I'd ask Anne to open a window then 10 minutes later I'd ask her to close it because I was cold. But he told me, the person that I was wasn't the same person I would be in 6 months, or 12 months. I'd lost hope, but him saying that gave me hope."

These supports helped Richard to navigate through life after a cancer diagnosis.

**Richard Kennedy
Lymphoma Survivor**



Living Well

Our goal

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

Our plan

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.

Our impact

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

Our direct **survivorship services** continued in 2025, with 14,350 sessions of counselling delivered through our remote counselling service and our funding of in-person counselling in community cancer support centres around the country.

Life and Cancer – Enhancing Survivorship (LACES) offers health and wellbeing information for adult patients who have finished treatment, on maintenance therapy or living well with advanced cancer. Our Cancer Nurses delivered workshops online and in person to 255 attendees in 2025. Over the past year, we continued to support **children, adolescents, young adults (CAYA) and families** affected by cancer. Our partnership with Barretstown, delivered three programmes supporting families affected by cancer. Across these programmes, 269 family members – including parents, siblings, children, and young people took part. These camps offered vital access to supports and services, while also creating a space for families to connect with others facing similar challenges.

One-to-one **life coaching** was provided to adolescents and young adults who had completed treatment. AYA and CAYA care kits were distributed in partnership with Boots and Head Plan Journal, offering practical and emotional support to young people throughout their cancer journey. The CAYA Nurse Co-ordinator continued to provide dedicated support one day per week onsite in CHI, while also maintaining links with adult hospitals where AYA patients receive treatment, ensuring continuity of care across services.

Through our investment in the **Young Onset Cancer Programme**, which is a part of the Irish Cancer Society – Trinity St James's Cancer Institute partnership, we successfully kicked off a pilot programme to support the unmet needs of people aged between 25-50 affected by head and neck and upper gastrointestinal cancers. This has already seen over 100 patients to date. This includes providing support where needed by a multidisciplinary team consisting of a programme coordinator, an advanced nurse practitioner in sexuality, fertility, and menopause, a medical social worker, and an advanced nurse practitioner in survivorship.

The Government's commitment to legislate for the **Right to be Forgotten after cancer**, was a major milestone. In 2022, the Society launched its advocacy campaign on this issue, calling for fair access to mortgage protection, travel insurance and other financial products for people who have completed cancer treatment. In July 2025, the Government confirmed it would legislate on the matter through the **Central Bank Amendment Bill 2025**. When enacted, this change will be a significant step towards financial equality and peace of mind for thousands of families.

Achieving our objectives

OBJECTIVE	RESULTS	PROGRESS
Continue to deliver the emotional and holistic supports provided to children and teenagers affected by cancer.	We continued our support and services including counselling, creative arts, complementary therapies, play therapy, family camps and life coaching, enhancing their well-being and psychosocial support.	Achieved
Allocate dedicated funding in 2025 to drive forward survivorship research capacity nationally and continue to support our Living Well goal.	27 researchers provided with over €1.5 million in funding in 2025 to drive forward survivorship cancer research projects.	Achieved
Strengthen relationships within Cancer Support Centres to enhance service delivery and support.	We continued to strengthen our partnerships with the Cancer Support Centres across the country, establishing regular meetings and opportunities to share insights. We continued to provide grant funding for in person counselling through many of the centres.	Achieved
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.	Over 100 patients across head and neck and upper GI cancers have been referred into our Young Onset Cancer Programme in 2025.	Achieved
Develop a model of care for better integrations of Irish Cancer Society services within Beaumont RCSI Cancer Centre as part of our institutional partnership.	We continued to work closely with our partners in Beaumont RCSI Cancer Centre to find opportunities to better integrate our services into the patient pathway.	In progress
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.	We offered a comprehensive package of services for cancer patients and their loved ones which include access to free exercise classes, diet webinars hosted by an Oncology Dietician, one-to-one support from Welfare and Support officers and access to free counselling remotely or in the community through partner Cancer Support Centres.	Achieved



Cancer survivor Nicole Keyes – at the Daffodil Day 2025 Launch



End-of-life Care

Our goal

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

Our plan

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.

Our impact

We continued to deliver free in-home nursing care to patients at end-of-life providing **6,000 nights of care** to cancer patients. We also provided end-of-life care to children with cancer. This service allows patients to die at home, surrounded by their families and loved ones.

We are committed to ensuring that any families that wants to access our Night Nursing services are able to do so and alongside key stakeholders in Palliative Care delivery, we are committed to reducing barriers that are preventing patients from earlier access to end-of-life palliative care in the community.

As an organisation we are committed to continuous improvement of our services and this year we conducted an external **Night Nursing Service Evaluation** to better understand the challenges, barriers and benefits of the service. This evaluation was conducted in conjunction with key partners including the Irish Hospice Foundation, HSE, Community Palliative care representatives, hospice providers and incorporated the feedback of families that accessed the service.



Edel Shovlin presenting Dympna McGovern with her retirement scroll at the 2025 Night Nursing conference

Achieving our objectives

OBJECTIVE	RESULTS	PROGRESS
Conduct an evaluation of our Night Nursing service and identify opportunities for future development.	Evaluation completed with final report delivered and recommendations made for implementation.	Achieved
Reduce the proportion of nights which we are unable to provide a Night Nurse.	We remained in line with previous year and have understood more the barriers that we face in being able to provide more nights of care.	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.	Throughout the year we held multiple training and development days with our Night Nurses around the country. We also commenced workforce review and identified key areas to recruit and retain nurses which remains a top focus for our Night Nursing service.	In progress
Complete a refresh of our policies and procedures for the Night Nursing service.	Existing policies were reviewed and disseminated to Night Nurses including a brand-new Night Nursing Handbook, a guide for palliative care professionals on service referral and updated patient information leaflet.	Achieved

Structured for impact

Our strategy

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

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.

Our impact

Volunteers remain vital to everything we do, from delivering services and supporting fundraising to deepening our connection with communities. In 2025, we welcomed **425 new volunteers** to the organisation. While the national rollout of new Garda vetting requirements required us to adapt our processes and introduce additional administrative steps, our teams worked collaboratively to ensure that onboarding remained efficient, supportive and aligned to best practice.

We continued to invest in building a strong, engaged **volunteer community**. Two major events took place during the year. One took place in Kilkenny, bringing together 100 volunteers for a day focused on learning, connection and celebration. Later in the year we hosted an event in partnership with patients, welcoming nearly 200 attendees. These events once again highlighted the generosity, passion and expertise of our volunteers, who are central to our mission and impact.

Our commitment to **investing in staff** capability, wellbeing and leadership remained a priority throughout 2025. Building on improvements made in recent years – including our refreshed induction programme, updated performance management process and leadership development initiatives – we continued to strengthen how we support, develop and engage our teams.

We focused on improving opportunities in **learning and development**. The Society recognises the importance of learning and development as a key driver in ensuring the best experiences and outcomes for people affected by cancer, while at the same time supporting employee retention, motivation and personal growth. The Society’s approach to learning and development aims to advance the skills and knowledge required by our people to deliver quality work and enhance the personal growth of individuals in their careers within the Society, while ensuring alignment with the Society’s goals.

Our **digital channels** remain essential to connecting people with trustworthy cancer information, support services and opportunities to get involved. We have continued to grow our online presence through social media expansion and through cancer.ie. We have ended 2025 with 294,650 social media followers across Facebook, X, Instagram and LinkedIn, and continue to engage the public with daily original and creative content.

A major milestone this year was the launch of our **new website**, designed to be easier to navigate, more accessible and optimised for mobile use, the new cancer.ie enhances how people access information, connect with services and support our work. The website attracted **2.3 million visits** during the year, underscoring the public’s trust in the Society as a go-to source of accurate, compassionate and up-to-date cancer information.

Our commitment to robust **governance, data protection and operational excellence** remained strong. We continued to refine internal processes, strengthen cybersecurity measures and enhance systems that support staff productivity and organisational efficiency. These efforts help ensure that every euro donated and every hour volunteered translates into maximum impact for people affected by cancer.

Achieving against our objectives

OBJECTIVE	RESULTS	PROGRESS
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.	Building on the great work in previous years, learning and development themes were identified and prioritised in conjunction with employees to enable continued focus on learning and development as a top priority in a way that is meaningful to our employees.	In progress
Continue to progress workplace diversity, equality and inclusion.	Several important diversity, equality and inclusion initiatives were delivered, while work on a more comprehensive approach is due to take place in 2026.	In progress
Launch the new Irish Cancer Society website.	New website launched in July 2025.	Achieved
Continue to enhance the support and supervision available for volunteer drivers.	New support and supervision documentation and processes developed.	Achieved
Continue to recruit new volunteers to the Society to ensure services are adequately supported.	Recruited 425 new volunteers to support across the organisation.	Achieved
Continue the roll-out of our new branding across the Society’s work, with a focus on our Daffodil Centres.	Majority of Daffodil Centres re-branding completed with one centre on hold.	Achieved
To further roll-out our approach to Risk Management through divisional Risk Registers and Cross-organisational risk assessments.	The divisional risk registers were created and a new risk assessment template rolled out to staff.	Achieved

How we work

The Irish Cancer Society's impact is made possible by the strength of our people, our commitment to good governance, and the partnerships that support every aspect of our mission. In 2025, we continued to build an organisation that is compassionate, trusted, sustainable and capable of delivering for people affected by cancer across Ireland.

Our wonderful volunteers

Our volunteers and staff are vital members of the Irish Cancer Society community, working together to deliver our mission to save lives and improve the lives of people affected by cancer in Ireland.

This year we welcomed more than 425 new volunteers, strengthening our community of people who play a vital role in delivering our services. Our volunteers were central to our Transport service, helping 2,850 patients attend essential treatment appointments by completing almost 30,000 drives throughout the year.

Volunteers also supported our Daffodil Centres, helped raise awareness in communities through the Cancer Awareness Roadshows, provided emotional and practical support through our Peer Support Programme, and championed advocacy and communications campaigns through our Advocacy service. Our volunteers were central to key fundraising initiatives such as Daffodil Day and Relay for Life, assisted in our retail network and provided administrative assistance in our head office. In addition, the Board and committee members all serve in a voluntary capacity providing critical governance oversight and expertise.

The Irish Cancer Society simply couldn't do what it does without our volunteers. We are deeply grateful for the generosity, dedication and willingness of our volunteers to give their time, making a meaningful difference, not only to our organisation but to every person whose lives they have touched.

Our dedicated patient partners

Our community of dedicated patient partners were central to our Patient and Public Involvement work, supporting researchers to ensure the lived experience shapes the research we fund. Over 40 patient partners worked with us in 2025 to review our research grants and help make the decision on what research projects we should fund and prioritise. This year we also expanded our patient involvement work to other teams within the Society, working with our patient partner panel to input into our advocacy work and contribute to our information and support services.

Our passionate staff

We continued our focus on staff learning and development as part of the People Strategy 2022-2025. The Society recognises the value of learning in ensuring our people deliver the best experiences and outcomes for people affected by cancer. It is also a key driver in enhancing our employee retention, motivation and growth.

Our overall mean gender pay gap in the organisation for this period was 5% (i.e. in favour of men). Our overall median gender pay gap in the organisation for this period was -5% (i.e. in favour of women). In line with our values, we ensure that all staff are paid the National Living Wage, not just the minimum wage. 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 were named among the Sunday Independent's Ireland's Best Employers for the 5th year in a row.



Advocacy volunteer Regina Heart

Diversity and inclusion

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.

We recognised International Women's Day with a staff event focused specifically on issues facing women as they navigate a cancer diagnosis. As part of our Pride celebrations, we hosted a staff Allyship and Support Workshop. This reflected on the 10th anniversary of the Marriage Equality referendum and the difference between passive and active allyship. We will continue to look for opportunities across all we do to ensure that our work and the Society is a community for all.

Sustainability

The health of our planet and the health of our communities are deeply connected. As Ireland's leading cancer charity, we recognise our responsibility to work in ways that protect the environment, reduce waste and support a more sustainable future. We continued to strengthen our environmental practices across our head office, charity shops and wider operations, with the support of staff, volunteers, contractors and suppliers.

A key focus for 2025 was reducing waste and improving the sustainability of the products and materials we use. We introduced **eco-natural, unbleached kitchen and**

bathroom paper made from recycled milk cartons, and implemented a **plastic-free SoluClean** system using compostable packaging and "bottles for life". As the products contain no added water, their transport weight is reduced by 96%, cutting associated CO₂ emissions.

We continued to minimise office waste, reducing our print and stationery spend through improved monitoring and reduced consumption. Old pull-up banners were also fully recycled by separating metal and paper components. All office chairs were upgraded through the donation of high-quality second-hand furniture, while the old chairs were repurposed by staff, local organisations and Vision Ireland. Remaining furniture was responsibly recycled, with certification provided by our waste partners. We also upgraded reception furniture with recycled armchairs and sofas.

Our staff canteen introduced a ReTurn recycling bin, collecting 200 bottles and 323 cans and generating €92 in recycling receipts. Energy and water consumption were reduced through better scheduling, leak remediation and continuous monitoring. All electricity used in our head office and 21 charity shops is 100% renewable, generated from wind, solar and anaerobic digestion sources.

Finally, we reduced carbon emissions from transport by limiting refuse and shredding collections to when bins were full, cutting unnecessary trips and lowering costs.

Sustainability remains a priority across the organisation. Through practical steps, collaborative effort and thoughtful choices, we continue to lessen our environmental impact while supporting a healthier future for all.

Fundraising review

Over the course of 2025 we raised nearly **€37m**, an **amazing 20%** increase on 2024. Income increased across nearly all fundraising areas, which is a testament to the strength of support for the cause and our commitment to continuous improvement.

Daffodil Day

Communities, schools, third-level institutions, workplaces, and individuals came together to go all in against cancer in towns, villages and cities all over Ireland. Thanks to the amazing support of volunteers and supporters – and our ambassador Tara Doonan – Daffodil Day 2025 raised an incredible **€6.6m**, a new record.

Campaigns and individual giving

As well as Daffodil Day, our teams focused on two other major public fundraising campaigns during the year. Breast Cancer Awareness month in October means Big Pink Breakfast fundraising as well as appeals and events specific to breast cancer support and research. This year's Christmas campaign focused on CAYA supports and services, and shows promise for growth.

The Campaigns team also piloted a new model of virtual challenge which exceeded our income targets; we plan to further invest in this model in 2026 with multiple new challenges planned.

Face-to-face fundraising continues to be a solid source of income and new supporters for us, with 5,755 new regular donors in 2025.

Author and breast cancer survivor Patricia Scanlon encouraging people to host Big Pink Breakfasts for Breast Cancer Awareness Month



Community and challenges

Community events also had a great year, with Hurling for Cancer Research raising over €200k for the first time and broadcast on TG4 for the second year in a row, and long-standing events like Innishannon Steam and Vintage Rally and the Moylagh JFK 50 Mile Walk also going from strength to strength. Overall active challenge income rose to **€2.2m**, of which the biggest contributor is Dublin Marathon fundraisers. We plan to further expand this area in 2026 and beyond.

Corporate

We further developed our relationships with corporate partners like Boots, Primark, Pfizer and EY, and working with them to not only raise funds but also raise awareness among their staff and customers. Musgraves trialled Deposit Return Scheme donations through Centra retailers with good results, which we will extend in 2026. Overall corporate income was above target, and we plan to expand the team further in 2026.

Relay for Life

Growing Relay for Life across the country was a key goal for 2025, and this year Relay for Life income raised €1.6m, exceeding €1m annually for the first time. This is a testament to the commitment and creativity of volunteers in the many Relay events across the country. Our staff also presented at the Global Relay for Life Forum, sharing with and learning from other international cancer charities.

Major donors, philanthropy and legacies

It was the third year of the Daffodil Lunch, as well as the Ceiling Breakers' Ball, which this year raised funds for both breast cancer and prostate cancer. We were delighted to again receive funding through the Toy Show Appeal and welcomed another significant donation to our CAYA programme. Income from Gifts in Wills was over €4m this year; next year we plan to focus on insight and research in this area of fundraising for the long term.

Left: Cancer survivor and Relay For Life Global Hero of Hope Rose Finn
Right: Malahide Woman (centre) is pictured with Patsy Byrne and Donal O'Leary



Financial Review

2025 was a successful year for the Irish Cancer Society. Thanks to the generous support of its valued donors, dedicated volunteers, and committed employees, the Society raised €36.8m in support of its charitable goals.

The Society's total income for 2025 was €36.8m (2024: €30.6m), representing an increase of €6.2m (20%) on 2024. The Society's total expenditure for 2025 was €30.9m (2024: €31.8m), representing a decrease of €0.9m (-3%) on 2024.

Income

The vast majority of 2025 income came from the generous support of the public, through fundraising campaigns, donations, legacies and charity shop sales. Grants from the State represented only 5% (2024: 6%) of the Society's total income.

On 28 March 2025, the Society ran a successful community and street-based Daffodil Day event, which raised a total of €6.6m (2024: €5.7m).

Donations and legacies

Income from donations and legacies in 2025 was €28.7m (2024: €22.4m); this was €6.3m higher than in 2024.

Total Donations

The Society received a total of €24.2m in donations in 2025 (2024: €20.0m).

The 2025 Daffodil Day campaign proved very successful raising a total of €6.6m (2024: €5.7m). Other national campaigns and donations contributed a total of €8.6m in 2025 (2024: €6.5m); the increase on 2024 was due to successful community and challenge events. The Society managed to grow its 2025 level of individual giving income to €4.5m (2024: €3.9m); the increase was due to a continued investment in the Society's door-to-door individual giving programme. Income from philanthropy and corporate partnerships was €4.5m in 2025 (2024: €3.8m); the increase on 2024 was due to an increase in donations from corporate partners.

Overall, in spite of the challenging economic backdrop, and the competing demands on the public's disposable income, the Society managed to grow its total donations by 21%; this was achieved across many income streams, and thanks to numerous innovative fundraising initiatives.

Legacies

The Society's income from legacies was €4.5m in 2025, an increase of €2.1m on 2024. Legacy income is unpredictable and can fluctuate year-on-year.

Trading activities

Income from the Society's 21 (2024: 21) charity shops was €4.5m in 2025 (2024: €4.8m). Overall, the shops contributed a surplus of €1.0m in 2025 (2024: €1.1m).

Charitable activities

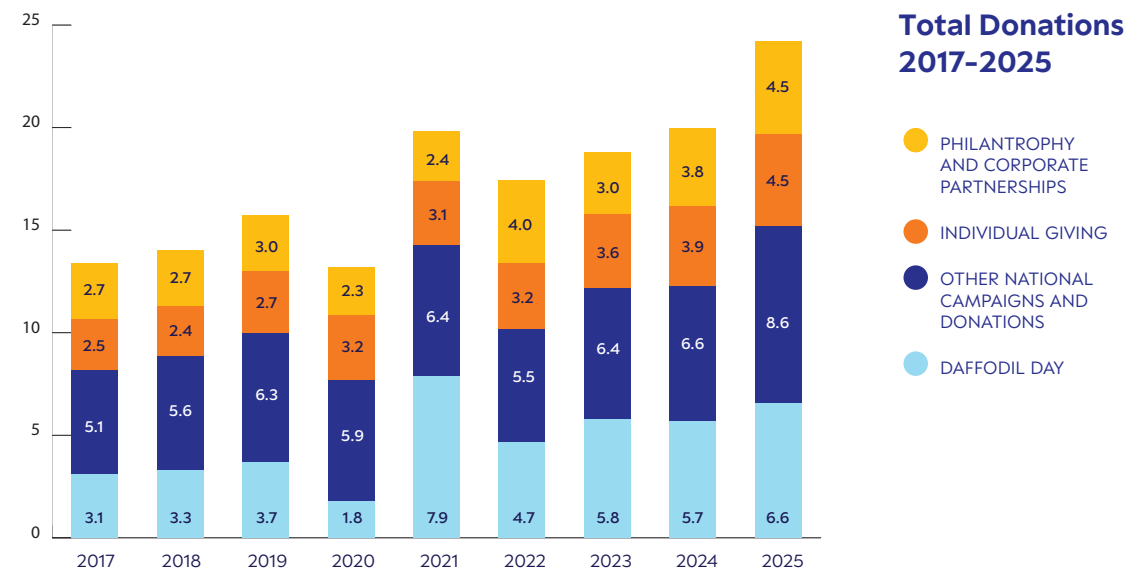
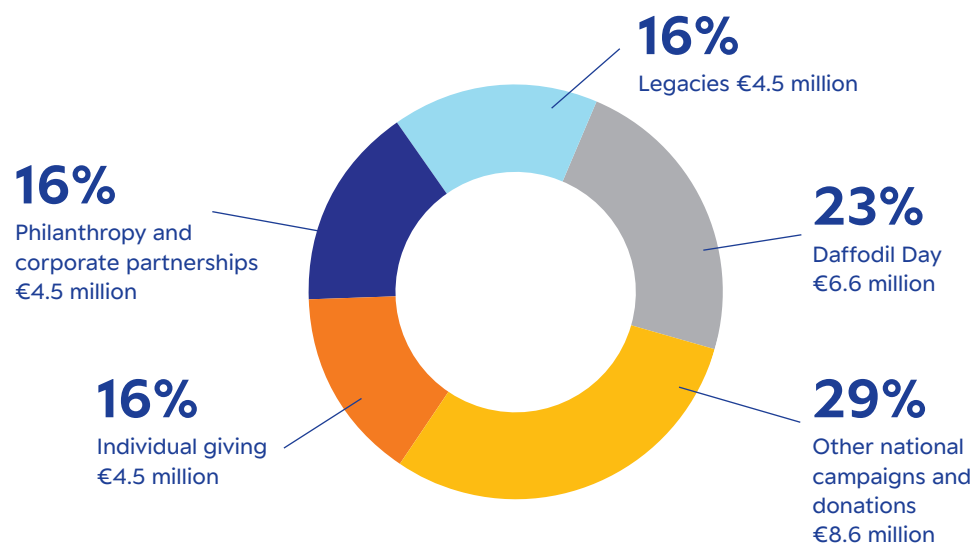
Income from charitable activities was €3.2m in 2025 (2024: €3.2m). This income includes grants from the HSE and NCCP to support the Society's night nursing, Travel2Care, and community counselling programmes, and reimbursements for night nursing services provided.

Income from State agencies represented 5% of the Society's total income in 2025 (2024: 6%).

Other income

Other income of €0.3m (2024 €0.1m) was received in 2025; this includes income from the VAT Compensation Scheme.

2025 Donations and Legacies



Expenditure

In 2025, the Society invested a total of €30.9m (2024: €31.8m) in furtherance of its strategic goals.

Expenditure	2025	2024
Charitable Activities	€19.9m	€20.7m
Fundraising Activities	€7.5m	€7.5m
Trading Activities	€3.5m	€3.6m
Total Expenditure	€30.9m	€31.8m

For every euro spent (not including trading activities expenditure) by the Society, 73c (2024: 74c) went on charitable activities. A further 27c (2024: 26c) was spent by the Society to raise money to fund its charitable activities. The movement on 2024 was due to a reduction in spend on public and patient awareness and education campaigns, and on the Society’s CAYA programme.

Charitable activities

Expenditure in relation to charitable activities in 2025 was €19.9m (2024: €20.7m); decreased by €0.8m (4%) in relation to 2024. The Society spent an additional €0.2m in relation to its Transport Service, and reduced spend on public and patient awareness and education campaigns, and on the Society’s CAYA programme. The reduction in spend in relation to these areas was in line with the Society’s Strategy.

Fundraising activities

€7.5m was spent on fundraising activities in 2025 (2024: €7.5m); the Society maintained its investment in key areas. For every euro spent on fundraising activities in 2025, the Society raised €3.80 in donations and legacies (2024: €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.

Total support costs for the year were €4.3m (2024: €4.1m); an increase of €0.2m (6%) on 2024. The primary driver for the increase was investments in the Society’s technology and compliance infrastructure.

Trading activities

Trading activities spend was €3.5m in 2025; this was in line with 2024.

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 €17.5m.

The available resources at 31 December 2025 were €35.6m (2024: €29.7m). Of this, €0.6m (2024: €0.5m) was held in restricted funds, as the funds were donated for specific purposes. €12.9m (2024: €16.0m) was held in general funds, and €22.1m (2024: €13.2m) was held in designated funds. At 31 December 2025, the Society held 11.8 months of expenditure in cash and investments, on a €35.0m annual expenditure basis (31 December 2024: 11.6 months on a €30.0m annual expenditure basis). The Society is due to launch a new ambitious five-year strategy in 2027; this level of cash and investments will allow expenditure on programmes under this strategy. The Society has budgeted for a deficit in 2026 as it continues to invest in a number of initiatives to improve the lives of those affected by cancer. The current level of reserves will enable the Society to continue to deliver critical services to those affected by cancer, despite the current uncertain economic environment.

Designated funds

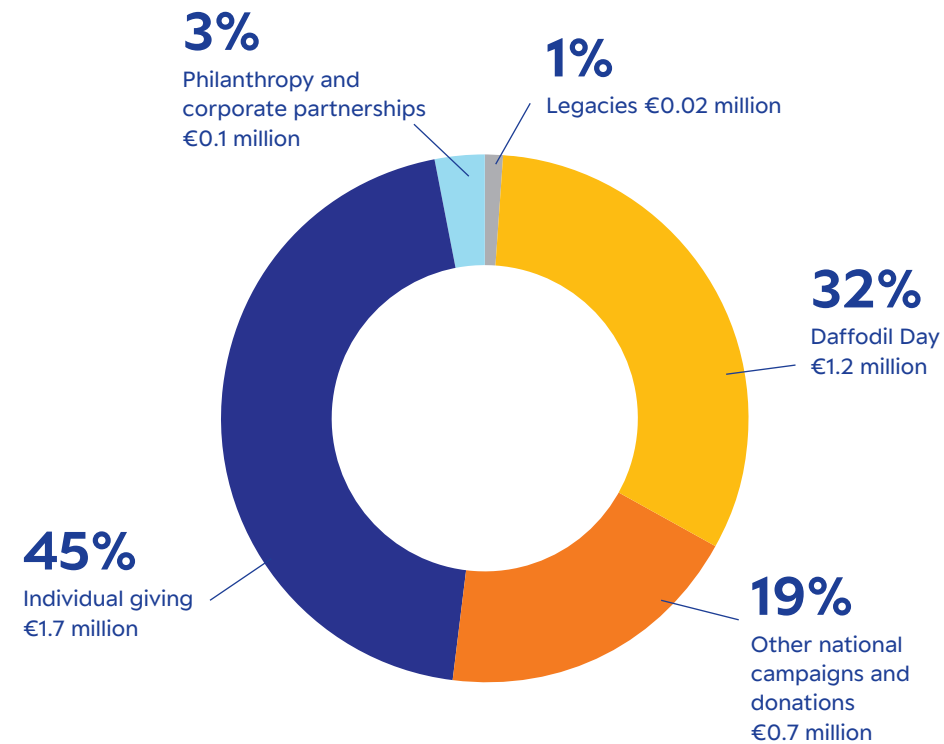
€22.1m was held in the designated fund at the year-end. This balance is made of €6.0m, which represents the value of multi-annual research commitments that have yet to be recognised in the Society’s income and expenditure account, and €16.1m which represents six months of expenditure on a €35.0m annual expenditure basis (adjusted for the multi-annual research commitment element as it is included in the balance of €6.0m).

Investment policy and performance

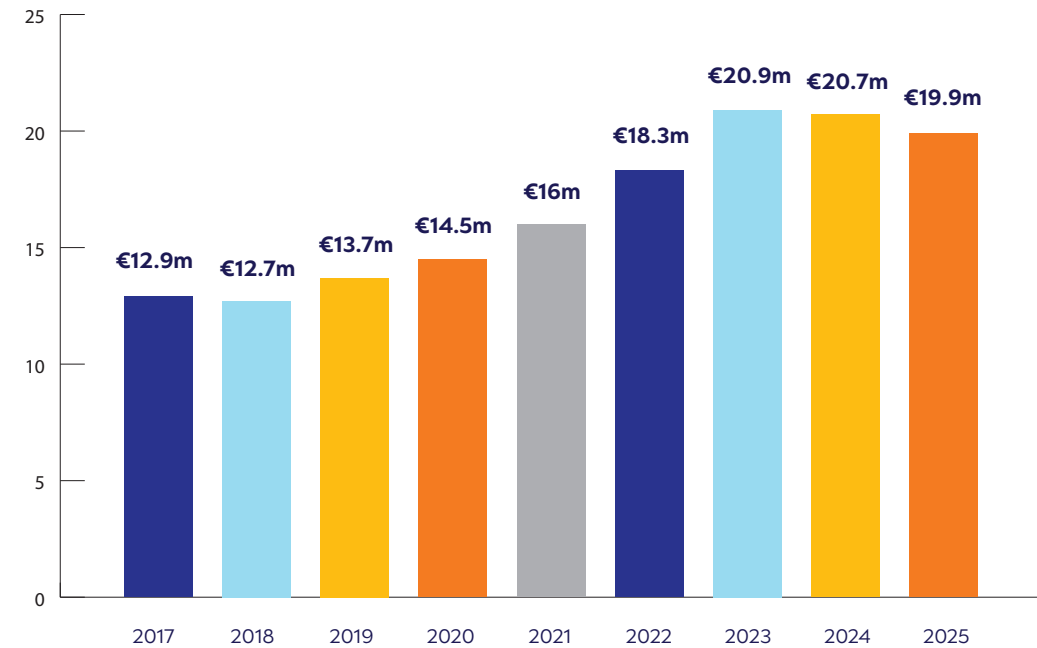
- The Society’s main investment objectives are:
- To preserve the value of its investments.
 - To maintain the real value of its investments against inflation.

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.

2025 Fundraising Campaign Direct Expenditure



Charitable Activities Expenditure 2017-2025



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 €35.0m annual expenditure basis, this would be €17.5m. 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 2025, the Society's invested funds yielded an average return of +0.9% (2024: +9.1%). There was a gain on investments of €0.007 m in 2025 (2024: +€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 – Kim McCann and Jim Dollard, who were appointed on 18th May 2026, due to the previous directors stepping down.

Members

There are currently 50 members of the Irish Cancer Society, 10 of whom are Directors. Each member guarantees to contribute up to one euro twenty-seven cent (€1.27) to the Society's debts, liabilities and costs in the event of it being wound up.

Board of Directors

The Society has a voluntary Board of Directors. The Directors are responsible for the governance and overall oversight of the organisation and its activities, and ensuring that the Society's activities align with its charitable objectives and aims. The Board met 8 times during the year.

The Board manages its work through a number of committees, comprising of 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.

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.

Details on the Board, CEO and Executive Leadership Team is available on page 58–63.

Appointments/Retirements

The Board Effectiveness Committee oversees the nomination and recruitment of Directors. In 2025, the Committee conducted a comprehensive skills review of the Board and its sub-Committees, including an evaluation of tenure for all Directors and members.

Directors are appointed by the Board for 6 years. This can be extended by the Board by a further three years, if such extension serves the best interests of the Society. Board Committee Chairs are appointed for three years, which can be further extended by the Board. The Chair of the Board is appointed for 4 years, which can be extended by one further year on approval of the Board.

During 2025 three Board members retired from the Board – Prof Sinead Brennan, Irene O’Gorman and Alex White. In September 2025, after serving 5 years as the Chair of the Board, Brid Horan retired.

A recruitment search was undertaken to select a new Chair of the Board, with support from an external agency. The process was overseen by the Board Effectiveness Committee, who ultimately brought a recommendation to the Board for approval. Allan Kearns, a member of the Society’s Board since July 2021, who also served as Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee, was appointed as the new Board Chair from 12th September 2025.

Appointments:

During the year, four new Board members were appointed:

- Jim Dollard was appointed to the Board of Directors and to the Finance Committee in May 2025.
- Kim Lavelle was appointed to the Board of Directors and the Audit and Risk Committee in July 2025.
- Kim McCann was appointed to the Board of Directors and as Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee in September 2025.
- Prof Gerry Hanna was appointed to the Board of Directors in October 2025.

Two new additional committee members were appointed also:

- Ronan Glynn was appointed to the Research Advisory Committee in June 2025.
- Sean Whelan was appointed to the Audit and Risk Committee in October 2025.

These new appointments strengthened the Board and its sub-Committees by bringing additional skills and expertise. In April 2026, Michéle Quinn was also appointed to the Board of Directors, and in July 2026 Ger Penny retired from the Board.

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 Officer, 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. Committee Chairs are also consulted on the induction needs of any newly appointed Committee members. In 2025 the Induction policy was reviewed and approved by the Board Effectiveness Committee and Board.

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 2025, the Board participated in a dedicated training day that included cybersecurity training, an externally led workshop on opportunities and risks in AI, and a strategic landscape session with the ELT. In 2026, the Board will use their annual away day to discuss the new 5 year strategic plan being developed with the ELT, supported by an external facilitator.

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, and an internal self-evaluation was conducted in late 2024. The results of both were positive, demonstrating that the Board is functioning well. The 2024 evaluation was reported to the Board Effectiveness Committee in early 2025 and recommendations adopted. In late 2025, the Board decided it would not be beneficial to conduct the annual Board self-evaluation as planned, given the turnover in Board members in 2025, and the appointment of a new Chair and CEO. A decision was taken to proceed with the external Board evaluation in H1 2026. The Board Effectiveness Committee will oversee the external evaluation, including selection of the external provider, reviewing the results, and implementation of any recommendations.

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 2025 a number of Board policies were reviewed and approved by the existing Board – the Conflict of Interest policy, Matters Reserved for the Board and the AGM, the Induction policy, and the Directors Code of Conduct. In addition, a new Directors Expenses policy and Board private time policy was approved by the Board.

A key priority for the Board during the year was ensuring an independent, transparent and robust recruitment and selection process for the new CEO and Chair of the Board. Both these processes were overseen by the Board Effectiveness Committee and ultimately the appointments were approved by the Board.

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.

The following Board and committee meetings were held in 2025:

Meetings held *	
Board of Directors	8
Finance Committee	5
Audit and Risk Committee	4
Board Effectiveness Committee	5
Research Advisory Committee	3

The following table shows Directors for the financial year 2025 and their attendance at Board meetings based on the number of Board meetings they were eligible to attend during the year. In addition, it shows Directors’ appointment and retirement dates (where applicable).

Director	Attendance	Date of appointment	Date of retirement
Bríd Horan (ex-Chair)	5 of 5	13 Jul 2020	12 Sept 2025
Allan Kearns (Chair)	6 of 8	01 Jul 2021	
Prof Sinead Brennan	4 of 5	01 Sep 2016	12 Sept 2025
Ger Penny	4 of 8	05 Mar 2020	
Alex White	1 of 5	25 Mar 2020	12 Sept 2025
Irene O’Gorman	6 of 8	25 Mar 2020	4 Dec 2025
Dr Mary Canavan	7 of 8	8 Sep 2021	
Maria Fleming	8 of 8	1 Sep 2022	
Prof Janice Walshe	8 of 8	10 Jan 2024	
Jim Dollard	4 of 6	20 May 2025	
Kim Lavelle	4 of 5	10 July 2025	
Kim McCann	3 of 3	12 Sept 2025	
Prof Gerry Hanna	3 of 3	10 Oct 2025	

Executive leadership team

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

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

- CEO, Nikki Gallagher (commenced March 2026)
- Chief Operating Officer, Edel Shovlin
- Director of Finance and Corporate Services, Ciara O'Neill (commenced July 2026)
- Director of Advocacy and Communications, Steve Dempsey (left July 2026)
- Director of Fundraising and Marketing, Glenda Ryan
- Director of People and Change, Honor Beakley
- Director of Clinical Affairs, Amy Nolan (left July 2026)

In October 2025 Averil Power stepped down as CEO. Edel Shovlin was appointed as Interim CEO from October 2025 – March 2026. Following a recruitment process led by an executive search agency, and overseen by the Board, Nikki Gallagher was appointed as the Society’s new CEO in November 2025.

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. The Terms of Reference for the Committees were reviewed and approved by the Board in late 2023 and early 2024. The Finance Committee and Audit and Risk Committee Terms of Reference are due to be reviewed in 2026. In May 2026, the Board approved a new Board sub-Committee, the Services and Clinical Affairs Committee, to oversee the Society’s services and ensure they are operating efficiently and effectively and in line with our strategic objectives.

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 2025 activity: During 2025, 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 2026 budgeting process and was notified of any significant commitments. Additionally, the Committee reviewed the trading performance of the Society’s twenty-one charity shops.

Finance committee attendance 2025	
Jim Dollard (Chair)*	3 of 3
Ger Penny (ex-Chair)	5 of 5
Irene O’Gorman	1 of 5
Maria Fleming	4 of 5

**Jim Dollard was appointed to the Finance Committee in May 2025. Irene O’Gorman stepped down in December 2025. Ger Penny retired as Chair of the Committee in March 2026 and Jim Dollard was appointed to replace him.*

Audit and risk committee

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

Report of 2025 activity: The Committee oversaw the Society’s contract 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. They also considered rotation of the auditors. The Committee reviewed compliance with the Charities Regulator Governance Code, and received an update on cyber security and health and safety. The Committee reviewed the risk register and approved the risk appetite. In addition, the Committee oversaw the internal audit plan led by Forvis Mazars which reviewed grant management controls and volunteer expenses.

Audit and Risk attendance 2025	
Kim McCann (Chair)	4 of 4
Allan Kearns (ex-Chair)	3 of 3
Alex White	2 of 3
Kim Lavelle*	2 of 2
Sean Whelan*	1 of 1

**Kim Lavelle and Sean Whelan were appointed to the Committee in July and October 2025, respectively. Alex White and Allan Kearns stepped down in September 2025, and Kim McCann was appointed as Committee Chair.*

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 2025 activity: The Committee reviewed Board and Committee composition and skills and considered succession planning, overseeing the recruitment of new Board and Committee members. It received updates on the Society's major projects and considered an evaluation of the Society's partnership with Cancer Trials Ireland. It oversaw the process for the recruitment of the new CEO and Chair of the Board. In addition, it reviewed several governance policies and considered Executive succession.

Board Effectiveness attendance 2025	
Allan Kearns (Chair)	5 of 5
Brid Horan (ex-Chair)*	4 of 4
Ger Penny	3 of 5
Dr Mary Canavan	5 of 5
Kim McCann	1 of 1
Jennifer Owens	4 of 5
Averil Power (ex-CEO)	5 of 5

**Brid Horan stepped down as Chair of the Committee in September 2025 and Allan Kearns was appointed as Chair. Kim McCann was appointed in September 2025. Averil Power, CEO, and Jennifer Owens, Director of Finance, stepped down in October 2025 and February 2026 respectively. The new CEO, Nikki Gallagher joined the Committee in March 2026.*

Research Advisory committee

The Research Advisory Committee (RAC) 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. This ensures 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 does this by providing support to, and oversight of, the work of the research team.

Report of 2025 activity: The Committee met three times in the year to support the implementation of the final year of our 2020-2025 Research Roadmap. It was involved in the ongoing monitoring of our major research partnerships, reviewed the 2025 research workplan and budget, and provided feedback to the Society on how to make research investments that provide the greatest impact to those with cancer.

Research advisory attendance 2025	
Dr Mary Canavan (Chair)	3 of 3
Prof John Reynolds	2 of 3
Dr Ann Brady	2 of 3
Dr Janice Walshe	3 of 3
Ronan Glynn*	1 of 2

**In June 2025 Ronan Glynn was appointed to the Research Advisory 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.

As required by the Charities Regulator, the Society reviews compliance with the Governance Code on an annual basis. In 2025 the Board reviewed the Society's compliance status with the Governance Code and was satisfied that the Society is compliant.

To provide further reassurance on our fundraising compliance, Forvis Mazars have been commissioned to carry out an internal audit in H1 2026 on our fundraising controls.

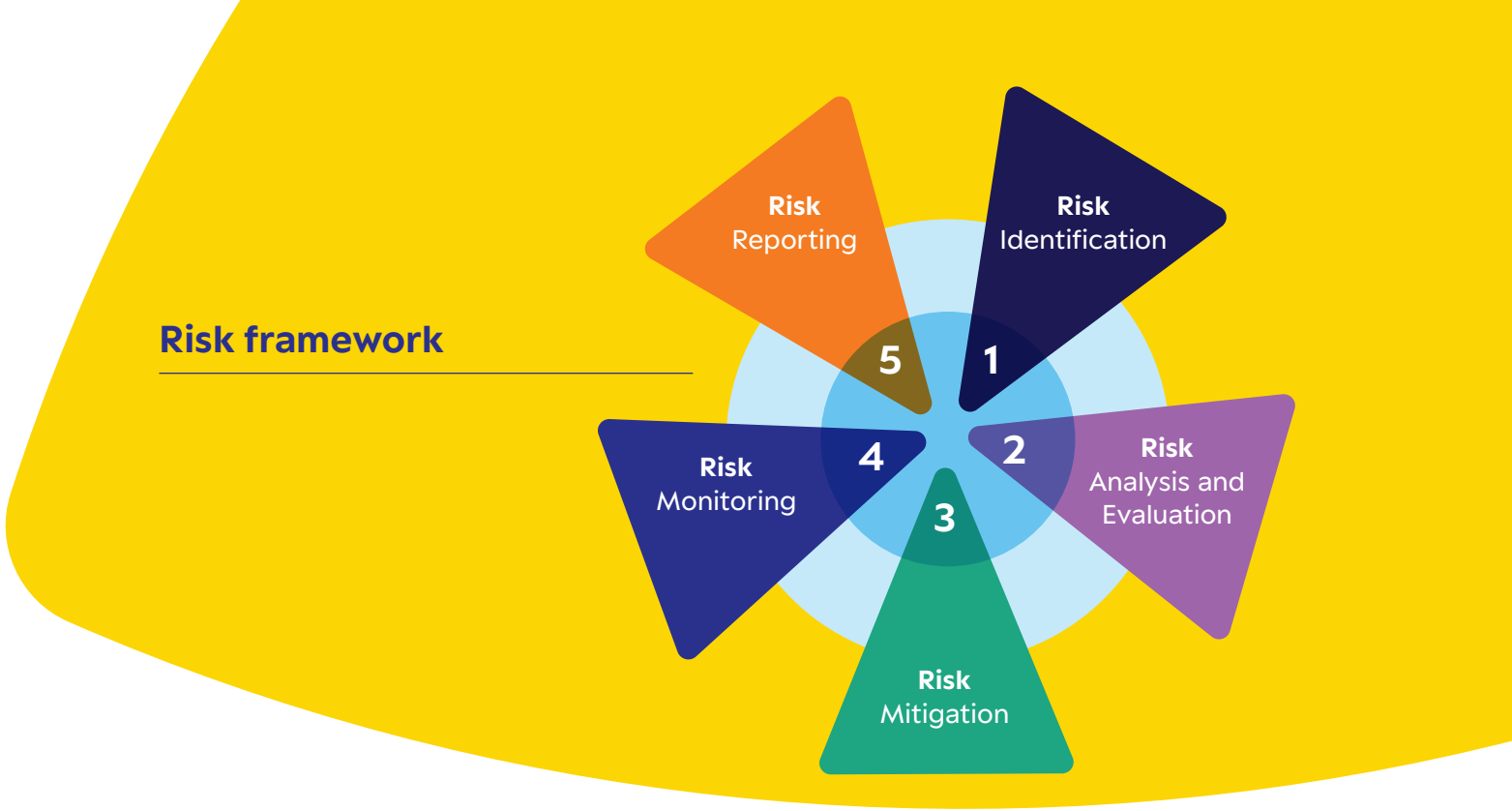
During 2025, further enhancements were made to support the Society's compliance with its Section 39 obligations. In addition, two compliance reviews were undertaken in health and safety and one of cash handling controls in the Society's charity shops. The Society continues to make improvements to its processes to ensure compliance with GDPR requirements.

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 in time with the Companies Registration Office (CRO) and the Charities Regulator.

Risk framework



Directors’ compliance statement

The Society is required to prepare a Section 225 Compliance Statement (Companies Act 2014), for 2025, 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 2025 the Directors, with the assistance of the Audit and Risk Committee, have conducted a review of the arrangements and structures in place. Arising out of this the Directors can confirm that appropriate arrangements and structures are in place which, in the opinion of the Directors, are designed to secure material compliance with the company's relevant obligations.

Risk management and internal control

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. Enhancements have been made annually to the framework. In 2025 a two-year project to develop divisional risk registers for each department was completed, strengthening our risk governance. During the year the Board considered the level of risk the Society is willing to take to achieve its strategic objectives. The Board will continue to review the risk appetite on a regular basis.

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 regularly. Each risk is assigned an owner and appropriate risk mitigation strategies are established to ensure the Society is not exposed to an unacceptable level of preventable risk.

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 2025 the Committee oversaw the second year of a three-year internal audit plan being supported by Forvis Mazars. Three areas were selected for audit – research grants, patient grants and volunteer expenses. All audit findings were reported to the Audit and Risk Committee and Board, and Management actions were agreed. The Audit and Risk Committee is updated at every meeting on progress against the actions.

The embedding 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 and internal controls.

As an organisation we have a low tolerance attitude to fraud, whilst acknowledging some fraud may still occur. 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. Staff training is provided regularly and there is a fraud policy and reporting procedure in place. In 2025 there were no protected disclosures and no instances of fraud identified. The Protected Disclosure policy will be reviewed in 2026.

Annually, the Audit and Risk Committee and the Board receive an overview of incidents and complaints. Outside of the annual update serious incidents, complaints or legal issues are escalated to the Board as appropriate. During 2026 a new incident management framework is being developed, and the complaints framework is being reviewed.

The following are 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	- Strong employee induction, appropriately qualified / registered clinical staff - Service evaluations carried out to monitor the effectiveness of our work - Monitoring health and safety compliance for staff, volunteers and service users - Monitoring of compliance and internal controls undertaken - Enhancing clinical oversight and reporting - Staff training plans in place
Income Sustainability	The risk of failure to raise sufficient income to meet growth in demand for services	- Build on brand recognition and brand strategy - Develop improvements in donor journey and engagement - Consistent monitoring of the fundraising landscape - Multi-year financial planning which aligns with strategy and required funding levels - Diversified funding approach and identifying growth areas
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	- External audit annually - Internal audit of Fundraising being undertaken - Strong governance policies and procedures in place - Central communications function - Compliant with Charities Regulator Governance Code - Engagement with wider sectoral bodies e.g. The Wheel, Charities Institute Ireland - Third party contracts subject to due diligence to reduce reputational risk - Guidance to staff and volunteers on social media use and crisis comms plan in place
Our People	The risk that the Society will not be able to attract and retain talent at all levels including staff and volunteers	- Ensuring the Society offers an attractive and competitive employer proposition - Implementation of the Society's people strategy and investment in staff development - Workforce and succession planning in place for staff and the Board - Dedicated volunteer management team to advance the volunteer experience
Information Management	The risk of a breach of information security leading to data loss / interruption to our critical services	- Anti-virus software and firewalls are in place - Business Continuity and IT Disaster Recovery Policy is in place - Clear process for reporting data breaches - Incident response plan established with notification to Board level as appropriate - Cybersecurity audit completed - Regular penetration testing - Ongoing staff training in data protection and IT security - Enhancing data security and deletion

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:


Allan Kearns
Director


Kim McCann
Director

Date: 31 July 2026

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?



Allan Kearns Chair

Allan is a PhD Economist and senior leader in the Central Bank of Ireland with 25 years' career experience covering Transformation, Strategic Planning, Data Analytics, Risk Management, Governance and Economics. He previously volunteered as Chair of the Irish Cancer Society's Audit and Risk Committee and Board Chair of the Asthma Society of Ireland. Allan supports the critical importance of life-long learning, and is an adjunct lecturer with the Institute of Bankers (IOB) as well as Chartered Accountants Ireland (specialist topics include governance and organisational culture).

"Discovering that you or a loved one has cancer can feel overwhelming. At the Irish Cancer Society, we're here to guide and support you. Equally, I am impressed at the high standards of governance the Society sets for itself. For over 60 years, the Irish Cancer Society has been one of the country's most trusted charities."



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."



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. Maria is passionate about social justice and volunteers as an Advocacy Champion for the Irish Cancer Society.

"I am proud to support the work of The Irish Cancer Society, as a survivor, I know the impact the services, research and advocacy have for patients, survivors and their families."



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 of all cancer types."



Kim Lavelle

Kim Lavelle is a senior governance leader and qualified lawyer with over 20 years' experience supporting Boards and executive teams across the public and private sectors. She is currently Group Company Secretary at PM Group, and a member of the Pillar, the Group Risk Committee and ESG Leadership Teams. Kim has a particular interest in governance, sustainability and risk management. Her career includes senior leadership roles with Science Foundation Ireland, ICON plc and Bank of Ireland.

"What makes the work of the Irish Cancer Society so powerful is that it is grounded in real people and real experiences. As a Board member and a supporter, I see firsthand the generosity of our volunteers, the dedication of our staff, and the care taken to ensure that people's stories are heard and reflected in the support we provide."



Jim Dollard

Jim Dollard was appointed Executive Director, Generation and Trading in ESB May 2018. Prior to this, he held the position of Executive Director, Business Service Centre (BSC) and Electric Ireland for five years. An accountant, he began his career in ESB in 1992 and has held a number of senior management positions throughout the Group in both financial and managerial roles. Jim holds a B. Comm and a master's in business studies from UCD.

"The Irish Cancer Society is driven to make to a real difference for cancer patients in Ireland. It is inspiring to see the commitment and passion within the organisation to make that happen and to hear and see the impact on patients' lives."



Kim McCann

Kim is a chartered accountant and experienced audit and risk professional. Kim started her career as an external auditor with KPMG, working in offices in Ireland, Australia and the UK. Subsequently, Kim moved to Internal Audit, leading the function at Flutter Entertainment Plc. Kim also has experience in Finance Transformation and Talent, investing time completing further education in Professional Coaching, an area she is passionate about.

"Bringing my experience to the Board is hugely important to me having suffered from breast cancer myself. I am inspired by the breadth of support offered by the Society, through night-nursing, transport services, cancer support services and more, ensuring an impact on so many. I am impressed by the wonderful stories of volunteers across the country who make the fundraising events such a success."



Prof Gerry Hanna

Gerry Hanna is a Professorial Fellow and the Marie Curie Chair of Clinical Oncology at Trinity College Dublin and a Consultant in Radiation Oncology at the St Luke's Radiation Oncology Network. Gerry also holds honorary appointments at the University of Melbourne, and Queen's University Belfast and is the past Director of Radiation Oncology at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Melbourne. Gerry is also the Vice-Clinical Lead of Cancer Trials Ireland and his Research interests include the use of PET/CT in radiotherapy planning for lung cancer, mechanisms of radiotherapy resistance, stereotactic ablative radiotherapy and systemic therapy and immunotherapy combinations with radiotherapy.

"As a radiation oncologist, I am delighted to work with the Society as they provide essential services and support to patients with cancer and their families. I also want to highlight the Society's support of cancer research through organisations such as Cancer Trials Ireland. Without this support we simply could not bring cutting edge treatments to Irish patients today."



Michéle Quinn

Michéle Quinn is a senior marketing leader and Chartered Marketer, currently serving as Chief Marketing Officer at McCann FitzGerald LLP. She has held a range of senior roles within the professional services sector, including Director of Marketing at EY Ireland. Her experience spans brand strategy, reputation management, and stakeholder engagement, supported by a people-first leadership style and strong commercial focus.

"I am honoured to join the Board of the Irish Cancer Society. This is a cause that is deeply personal to me, having experienced the realities of cancer within my own family, I am acutely aware of the challenges patients and their families face. I hope to bring both my professional experience and personal perspective to support its continued impact."

Our Leadership Team



Nikki Gallagher

CEO

Nikki Gallagher is the Chief Executive of the Irish Cancer Society. She is a purpose-driven leader with extensive experience in strategic leadership, advocacy and governance across the private, public and charity sectors.

She has a strong track record of delivering positive policy change, having played a central role in campaigns that advanced children's rights, reproductive healthcare, LGBTI+ equality, gender equality and education reform. She has built and supported high-performing teams for two decades and has led internal transformation initiatives in culture, values, diversity and inclusion. Nikki holds an MSc in Strategic Management, a Diploma in Law and a professional certificate in Governance.



Edel Shovlin

Chief Operating Officer

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.



Ciara O'Neill

Director of Finance and Corporate Services

Ciara is a qualified Chartered Accountant and also has an MSc in the Management and Application of IT in Accounting. Having trained in Deloitte, Ciara has worked with a number of organisations across the private, commercial semi-state and not-for-profit sectors including Irish Intercontinental Bank, National Learning Network Ltd, An Post, Concern Worldwide and Rethink Ireland. She has built up a broad knowledge and wide range of experience leading teams, implementing continuous improvements and delivering results.



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, change management and digital product development.



Glenda Ryan

Director of Fundraising and Brand

Glenda provides strategic leadership across fundraising, retail, and brand development, driving sustainable income growth and elevating the Society's national presence. Drawing on extensive experience across the non-profit, fundraising, and marketing sectors, she leads the teams to deliver innovative strategies that deepen supporter engagement and broaden the Society's impact. Through strong partnerships, creative excellence, and a commitment to long-term, sustainable growth, her leadership continues to advance the Society's vision and create meaningful change for people across Ireland.



Honor Beakley

Director of People and Change

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 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

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 2025 and of the profit for the financial year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework and, in particular, with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

The financial statements we have audited comprise:

- the Statement of Financial Activities;
- the Balance Sheet;
- the Statement of Cash Flows; and
- the related notes 1 to 26, including a summary of significant accounting policies as set out in note 1.

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

Basis for opinion

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

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report and 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 Financial Statements. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

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

Responsibilities of directors

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

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

Auditor’s responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on IAASA’s website at: <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.

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

Date 31 July 2026

Statement of financial activities

	Notes	2025 Unrestricted	2025 Restricted	2025 Designated	2025 Total	2024 Unrestricted	2024 Restricted	2024 Designated	2024 Total
		€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
INCOME:									
Donations and legacies	3(a)	23,487	5,215	-	28,702	18,308	4,101	-	22,409
Trading activities	3(b)	4,450	-	-	4,450	4,757	-	-	4,757
Investments	3(c)	150	-	-	150	157	-	-	157
Charitable activities	3(d)	1,251	1,980	-	3,231	1,453	1,700	-	3,153
Other income	3(e)	296	5	-	301	155	-	-	155
Total income		29,634	7,200	-	36,834	24,830	5,801	-	30,631
EXPENDITURE:									
Charitable activities	4	12,862	7,029	-	19,891	15,156	5,585	-	20,741
Fundraising activities	5	7,499	-	-	7,499	7,469	-	-	7,469
Trading activities		3,500	-	-	3,500	3,550	-	-	3,550
Total expenditure		23,861	7,029	-	30,890	26,175	5,585	-	31,760
Net gain on investments	13	7	-	-	7	597	-	-	597
Net (expenditure) / income	9	5,780	171	-	5,951	(748)	216	-	(532)
Taxation	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers between funds	8	(8,900)	-	8,900	-	(4,400)	-	4,400	-
Net movement in funds		(3,120)	171	8,900	5,951	(5,148)	216	4,400	(532)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:									
Funds balances brought forward		16,017	469	13,200	29,686	21,165	253	8,800	30,218
Funds balances carried forward		12,897	640	22,100	35,637	16,017	469	13,200	29,686

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 70 to 90 form part of these financial statements.

Balance sheet

	Notes	2025 €'000	2024 €'000
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	12	7,719	8,039
Total Fixed Assets		7,719	8,039
Current Assets			
Investments	13	8,108	8,034
Stocks		152	200
Debtors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	2,056	1,443
Cash at bank and in hand		26,352	20,981
Total Current Assets		36,668	30,658
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	15	(6,139)	(6,331)
Net current assets		30,529	24,327
Total assets less current liabilities		38,248	32,366
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year			
Long term liabilities	15	(2,611)	(2,680)
NET ASSETS		35,637	29,686
Funds:			
Restricted income funds	8	640	469
<u>Unrestricted income funds</u>			
General income funds		12,897	16,017
Designated income funds	8	22,100	13,200
Total unrestricted income funds	8	34,997	29,217
TOTAL FUNDS		35,637	29,686

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board of directors on 31 July 2026 and signed on its behalf by:





Allan Kearns
Director

Kim McCann
Director

The notes on pages 70 to 90 form part of these financial statements.

Statement of cash flows

	Notes	2025 €'000	2024 €'000
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash generated by operating activities	18	5,499	(711)
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Deposit interest received		15	15
Purchase of fixed assets	12	(69)	(137)
Net cash flow from investing activities		(54)	(122)
Increase / (Decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		5,445	(833)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		29,015	29,848
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December		34,460	29,015
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents			
Bank and cash		26,352	20,981
Cash equivalents		8,108	8,034
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December		34,460	29,015

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 2025 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 2025 Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet, the approved 2026 budget, the projections for 2027, 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 receivable on the Balance Sheet. Where income has been received in advance, it is deferred as a liability on the Balance Sheet until income recognition conditions are met.

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

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

Donations and legacies

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

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

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

Trading activities

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

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

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

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.

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.

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

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.

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

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Trade and Other Debtors

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

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

Trade and Other Creditors

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

RETIREMENT BENEFITS

The Irish Cancer Society operates a defined contribution ("DC") pension scheme. Contributions payable to this scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Amounts not yet remitted at the year-end are included in accruals on the Balance Sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the Society in independently administered funds.

TAXATION

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

2. Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

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

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

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

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

3. Income

a) Donations and legacies	2025 Unrestricted €'000	2025 Restricted €'000	2025 Total €'000	2024 Total €'000
Daffodil Day	6,370	239	6,609	5,687
Other national campaigns and donations	6,944	1,639	8,583	6,535
Total national campaigns and donations	13,314	1,878	15,192	12,222
Individual giving	4,339	113	4,452	3,928
Philanthropy and corporate partnerships	2,617	1,917	4,534	3,821
Total Donations	20,270	3,908	24,178	19,971
Legacies	3,217	1,307	4,524	2,438
Total	23,487	5,215	28,702	22,409

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	2025 Unrestricted €'000	2025 Restricted €'000	2025 Total €'000	2024 Total €'000
Shop income	4,437	-	4,437	4,744
Other trading activities	13	-	13	13
Total	4,450	-	4,450	4,757

c) Investments	2025 Unrestricted €'000	2025 Restricted €'000	2025 Total €'000	2024 Total €'000
Investment income	135	-	135	142
Deposit interest	15	-	15	15
Total	150	-	150	157

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

3. Income (continued)

d) Income from charitable activities	2025 Unrestricted €'000	2025 Restricted €'000	2025 Total €'000	2024 Total €'000
Dept. of Health / HSE / NCCP: Travel2Care annual funding	-	500	500	350
Dept. of Health / HSE / National Palliative Care Programme: Night Nursing annual funding	-	1,250	1,250	1,250
HSE: once-off funding	-	-	-	100
Other State funding	34	-	34	156
Dept. of Health / HSE / NCCP: Research funding	-	30	30	-
Dept. of Health / HSE / NCCP: Counselling Service funding	-	200	200	-
Government grants relating to Charitable Activities	34	1,980	2,014	1,856
Night nursing reimbursements	1,199	-	1,199	1,280
Other	18	-	18	17
Total	1,251	1,980	3,231	3,153

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	Counselling €'000	Research €'000
Restricted income carried forward	247	-	-	-
Current year income	500	1,250	200	30
Carried forward income offset against expenditure	(247)	-	-	-
Current year income offset against expenditure	(37)	(1,250)	(200)	(30)
Restricted income to be carried forward	463	-	-	-
Current year income received in current year	500	1,250	200	30
Current year income receivable at 31 December 2025	-	-	-	-

e) Other income	2025 Unrestricted €'000	2025 Restricted €'000	2025 Total €'000	2024 Total €'000
VAT Compensation Scheme	179	-	179	155
Other grant income	-	5	5	-
Other income	117	-	117	-
Total	296	5	301	155

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.

	2025 Healthy Living €'000	2025 Catching Cancer early €'000	2025 Treating Cancer €'000	2025 Living Well €'000	2025 End of Life Care €'000	2025 Total €'000
Services and Advocacy						
Public and patient awareness and education campaigns	338	338	232	234	99	1,241
Cancer support centre funding*	-	-	419	419	-	838
Transport service	-	-	1,360	-	-	1,360
Travel2Care (NCCP)	-	-	-	284	-	284
Financial support	-	-	-	529	-	529
Patient education programme	-	-	80	-	-	80
Survivorship service	-	-	-	778	-	778
CAYA	-	37	150	188	-	375
Night nursing	-	-	-	-	4,077	4,077
Daffodil centres*	27	73	573	446	25	1,144
Support line*	9	25	199	154	9	396
Programme management	34	34	34	34	34	170
Customer experience	10	10	10	9	10	49
Advocacy	35	94	94	96	35	354
Operating costs	52	66	272	270	178	838
Total direct and operating costs	505	677	3,423	3,441	4,467	12,513
Support costs	163	205	847	841	554	2,610
Total Services and Advocacy	668	882	4,270	4,282	5,021	15,123
Research						
Translational	-	-	505	(16)	-	489
Survivorship	-	(1)	-	1,006	20	1,025
Trials	-	-	985	147	-	1,132
Other strategic	-	378	512	395	-	1,285
Operating costs	-	40	294	242	4	580
Total direct and operating costs	-	417	2,296	1,774	24	4,511
Support costs	-	18	130	107	2	257
Total Research	-	435	2,426	1,881	26	4,768
Total Charitable Activities	668	1,317	6,696	6,163	5,047	19,891

*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)

	2025 Unrestricted €'000	2025 Restricted €'000	2025 Total €'000	2024 Total €'000
Services and Advocacy				
Public and patient awareness and education campaigns	1,231	10	1,241	1,908
Cancer support centre funding*	348	490	838	887
Transport service	1,028	332	1,360	1,168
Travel2Care (NCCP)	-	284	284	356
Financial support	446	83	529	529
Patient education programme	80	-	80	82
Survivorship service	778	-	778	687
CAYA	57	318	375	817
Night nursing	1,295	2,782	4,077	4,054
Daffodil centres*	908	236	1,144	1,142
Support line*	332	64	396	410
Programme management	170	-	170	196
Customer experience	49	-	49	69
Advocacy	354	-	354	433
Operating costs	838	-	838	728
Total direct and operating costs	7,914	4,599	12,513	13,466
Support costs	2,610	-	2,610	2,512
Total Services and Advocacy	10,524	4,599	15,123	15,978
Research				
Translational	489	-	489	337
Survivorship	527	498	1,025	1,602
Trials	132	1,000	1,132	1,000
Other strategic	353	932	1,285	1,040
Operating costs	580	-	580	541
Total direct and operating costs	2,081	2,430	4,511	4,520
Support costs	257	-	257	243
Total Research	2,338	2,430	4,768	4,763
Total Charitable Activities	12,862	7,029	19,891	20,741

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

5. Fundraising Activities

Costs comprise the following:	2025 Unrestricted €'000	2025 Restricted €'000	2025 Total €'000	2024 Total €'000
Daffodil Day	1,124	-	1,124	1,113
Other national campaigns and donations	707	-	707	647
Total national campaigns and donations	1,831	-	1,831	1,760
Individual giving	1,630	-	1,630	1,951
Philanthropy and corporate partnerships	118	-	118	105
Total donations	3,579	-	3,579	3,816
Legacies	16	-	16	10
Donations and Legacies costs	3,595	-	3,595	3,826
Operating costs	2,423	-	2,423	2,280
Total direct costs	6,018	-	6,018	6,106
Investment management costs	69	-	69	66
Support costs (Note 6)	1,412	-	1,412	1,297
Total	7,499	-	7,499	7,469

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:

- 61% (2024: 62%) to Services and Advocacy
- 33% (2024: 32%) to Fundraising
- 6% (2024: 6%) to Research

	2025 Services and Advocacy €'000	2025 Research €'000	2025 Fundraising €'000	2025 Total €'000	2024 Total €'000
Information Technology	1,076	106	582	1,764	1,660
Finance and Legal	565	56	306	927	856
Human Resources and Volunteering	395	39	213	647	631
Other	574	56	311	941	905
Total	2,610	257	1,412	4,279	4,052

Other costs include facilities, utilities and CEO office costs.

Included in the support costs are the following governance costs:

	2025 €'000	2024 €'000
Legal and professional fees	24	28
Audit fees	37	37
Total	61	65

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

7. Research Grants

Expenditure on the following grants was charged in 2025:

Recipient	Project Description	€'000
Cancer Trials Ireland	Partnership funding for 2025 CTI25COR	1,000
Beaumont / RCSI	Lung Cancer Research Programme BRCSI25NAI	752
Trinity College / St James Cancer Institute (TSJCI)	Young Onset Cancer Programme Phase 1 TSJCI25YOCP-P1	526
Precision Oncology Ireland	Research Collaboration POI25GAL	500
Trinity College / St James Cancer Institute (TSJCI)	Public and Patient Partnership TSJCI25PPP	396
Mr Jay Campbell	Cancer Research Strategic PhD Scholarship 2025 CRS25CAM	180
Dr Christina Fleming	Clinician Research Leadership Award 2025 CRLA25FLE	150
Ms Elizabeth Meade	Cancer Nursing Research Award 2025 CNRA25MEA	150
Prof Josephine Hegarty	Women's Health Initiative 2025 LYSA25COHE	100
Prof Jack Gleeson	Men's Health Initiative 2025 MHI25GLE	98
Dr Claire O'Donnell	Cancer Research Seed Funding Award 2025 CSSD25DON	50
Prof Catherine O'Gorman	Cancer Survivorship Seed Funding Award 2025 CSSD25OGO	50
Dr Patricia Sheehan	Cancer Survivorship Seed Funding Award 2025 CSSD25SHE	32
Various	Various research PPI grants, awards and student grants	57
Various	Prior years research grants unused / cancelled and returned	(110)
Operating Costs	Management of tenders, review and oversight	580
Total direct costs		4,511
Support and central costs (Note 6)		257
Total		4,768

The summary above includes research contracts entered into and recognised in 2025. 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 135 researchers worked on research projects funded by the Society (2024: 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 €22.1m fund comprises €6.0m representing the total value of multi-annual research commitments that have yet to be recognised in the Society's income and expenditure account, and €16.1m representing six months of expenditure on a €35.0m annual expenditure basis (adjusted for the multi-annual research commitment element as it is included in the balance of €6.0m).

	Opening Balance as at 01/01/2025 €'000	Transfers 2025 €'000	Closing Balance as at 31/12/2025 €'000
Research	5,700	300	6,000
Expenditure	7,500	8,600	16,100
	13,200	8,900	22,100

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 01/01/2025 €'000	Income 2025 €'000	Expenditure 2025 €'000	Transfers 2025 €'000	Closing Balance as at 31/12/2025 €'000
Breast cancer	122	1,147	(1,269)	-	-
Prostate cancer	-	157	(157)	-	-
Travel2Care grants HSE/NCCP	247	500	(284)	-	463
Research***	100	2,150	(2,250)	-	-
Nursing*	-	2,402	(2,402)	-	-
CAYA	-	83	(83)	-	-
CAYA – other	-	500	(323)	-	177
Survivorship**	-	251	(251)	-	-
Reduce the risk	-	10	(10)	-	-
Total	469	7,200	(7,029)	-	640

Breast Cancer: to fund research related to breast cancer and general support services used by those affected by breast cancer.
Prostate Cancer: to fund research related to prostate cancer and general support services used by those 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 for cancer patients through our palliative night nursing service and to fund nursing information, advice and support through our Support Line and Daffodil Centres.
CAYA: to fund research and support services (including financial support) for children and young adults affected by cancer.
CAYA – other: to fund research and support services for children and young adults affected by cancer.
Survivorship: to fund support services to anyone affected by cancer, including transport for patients through our Transport Service, peer-to-peer volunteer programmes, counselling (remote and through our partner cancer support centres) as well as information and support on eating well and exercise during the cancer journey.
Reduce the Risk: to fund programmes aimed at raising awareness and sharing information on how to avoid cancer.
* Income includes €1,250,000 of HSE grant funding for the Society's night nursing service.
** Income includes €200,000 of HSE/NCCP grant funding for the Society's counselling service.
*** Income includes €30,000 of HSE/NCCP grant funding for the Society's research programme.

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 01/01/2025 €'000	Income 2025 €'000	Expenditure 2025 €'000	Transfers 2025 €'000	Gains 2025 €'000	Closing Balance as at 31/12/2025 €'000
General fund	16,017	29,634	(23,861)	(8,900)	7	12,897

d) Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Restricted Funds €'000	Designated Unrestricted Funds €'000	General Unrestricted Funds €'000	Total 2025 €'000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	7,719	7,719
Current assets	640	22,100	13,928	36,668
Current and long-term liabilities	-	-	(8,750)	(8,750)
Total	640	22,100	12,897	35,637

In respect of prior year:

	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)
Total	469	13,200	16,017	29,686

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

9. Net Income for the Financial Year

	2025 €'000	2024 €'000
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation	379	396
Auditor's remuneration:		
– Audit of financial statements	37	37
– Other assurance services	8	5
– Tax advisory services	-	-
– Other non-audit services	-	-
Directors' remuneration	-	-
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	10	2
Operating lease charge	736	747

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:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Charitable activities	77	73
Charitable activities – night nursing	40	41
Fundraising	37	34
Charity shops	45	45
Support	39	39
Total	238	232

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 2025 183 (2024: 193) nurses were employed for at least one night. The average number of nurses in 2025 was 112 (2024: 113); this equates to 40 (2024: 41) nurses on a full-time equivalent basis.

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2025 €'000	2024 €'000
Salaries	13,512	12,983
Social welfare costs	1,387	1,351
DC pension scheme employer contributions (Note 19)	706	653
Permanent health, life assurance and DC pension scheme costs	169	230
Total	15,774	15,217

In 2025 there were redundancy costs of €Nil (2024: €Nil).

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

	2025 Number	2024 Number
€60,000 – €70,000	21	19
€70,001 – €80,000	7	8
€80,001 – €90,000	6	5
€90,001 – €100,000	5	4
€100,001 – €110,000	2	1
€110,001 – €120,000	-	-
€120,001 – €130,000	-	-
€130,001 – €140,000	-	-
€140,001 – €150,000	1	-
> €150,001	-	1

Key management personnel is defined as the CEO and the members of the executive leadership team. The total emoluments (including benefits, pension and redundancy) paid to key management personnel in 2025 was €810,997 (2024: €751,871).

In 2025 the CEO was paid a salary of €134,328 (2024: €145,004) and a travel allowance of €8,225 (2024: €10,000). The previous CEO left the Society in October 2025; the new CEO did not start until March 2026. The Society contributed 20% (2024: 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 2025 the Society made payments of €Nil (2024: €Nil) in relation to out-of-pocket expenses.

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

12. Tangible Assets

	Freehold Premises	Computer Fixtures and Fittings	Motor Vehicles	Furniture and Equipment	Equipment and Software	Total
	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
Cost:						
At 01/01/2025	13,283	403	36	382	1,248	15,352
Additions	-	-	-	9	60	69
Disposals	-	(15)	-	(3)	(76)	(94)
At 31/12/2025	13,283	388	36	388	1,232	15,327
Depreciation:						
At 01/01/2025	5,522	230	27	343	1,191	7,313
Charge for financial year	265	25	9	17	63	379
Disposals	-	(5)	-	(3)	(76)	(84)
At 31/12/2025	5,787	250	36	357	1,178	7,608
Net book amounts:						
At 31/12/2025	7,496	138	-	31	54	7,719

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

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 2025 was €13,000 (2024: €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

	2025 €'000	2024 €'000
At 1 January	8,034	7,361
Gain/(loss) on investments	7	597
Investment income	136	142
Management fees	(69)	(66)
At 31 December	8,108	8,034

The funds are held in the following classes of investments:

	2025 €'000	2024 €'000
Cash and cash equivalents	311	335
Listed investments	7,676	7,577
Other investments	121	122
Total	8,108	8,034

	2025 €	2024 €
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 2025 (2024: €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

	2025 €'000	2024 €'000
Trade and other debtors	199	201
Accrued income	1,295	651
221+ support group balance due	-	-
Prepayments	562	591
Total	2,056	1,443

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

15. Creditors

Amounts falling due within one year:

	2025 €'000	2024 €'000
Trade and other creditors	674	486
Accruals	706	660
221+ support group funds held in trust	3	1
Payroll taxes	327	330
Instalments due on research and services grants payable	4,429	4,854
Total	6,139	6,331

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

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

Amounts falling due after more than one year:

	2025 €'000	2024 €'000
Instalments due under research and services grants payable	2,611	2,680

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

16. Grant Commitments And Provisions

	31/12/2025 €'000	31/12/2024 €'000
Balance at 1 January	7,534	7,803
New grants awarded	3,995	4,554
Grants refunded	(108)	(49)
Grants disbursed	(4,381)	(4,774)
Balance at 31 December	7,040	7,534
Classified as:		
Due within 1 year	4,429	4,854
Due after 1 year	2,611	2,680
Balance at 31 December	7,040	7,534

The 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. €6.0m (2024: €5.7m) was held in the designated fund at the end of 2025 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:

	2025 €'000	2024 €'000
Financial Assets		
Measured at fair value through profit or loss	8,108	8,034
Current asset listed investments (see Note 13)		
Measured at undiscounted amount receivable	199	201
Trade and other debtors (see Note 14)		
Total	8,307	8,235
Financial Liabilities		
Measured at undiscounted amount payable	7,717	8,021
Trade and other payables (see Note 15)		
The Society’s income, expense, gains and losses in respect of financial instruments are summarised below:		
	2025 €'000	2024 €'000
Fair value gains and (losses)		
On financial assets measured at fair value through statement of financial activity	7	597

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

18. Cash Flow Statement

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

	2025 €'000	2024 €'000
Net income for the financial year	5,951	(532)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	379	396
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	10	2
(Decrease) / increase in creditors	(261)	(669)
Decrease / (increase) in stock	48	(10)
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	(613)	117
Deposit interest	(15)	(15)
Cash generated/(used) by operations	5,499	(711)

b) Net debt

The Society had no borrowings or obligations under finance leases as at 31 December 2025 (2024: 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 €706,202 (2024: €652,596) during the financial year. The amount outstanding at the financial year end was €134,449 (2024: €112,965). 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:

	2025 €'000	2024 €'000
Within one year	378	547
Between one and five years	632	980
More than five years	-	12
Total	1,010	1,539

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 2025 and has insignificant net assets, consolidated financial statements have not been prepared.

23. Related Parties

There were no related party transactions in 2025.

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 2025 financial statements.

25. Political Donations

The Society made no political donations during 2025.

26. Approval Of Financial Statements

These financial statements were approved by the board on 31 July 2026.

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 (resigned 12 September 2025)
Dr. Mary Canavan
Jim Dollard
Maria Fleming
Prof Gerard Hanna (appointed 10 October 2025)
Brid Horan (resigned 12 September 2025)
Allan Kearns
Kim Lavelle (appointed 10 July 2025)
Kim McCann (appointed 12 September 2025)
Irene O’Gorman (resigned 04 December 2025)
Ger Penny (resigned 01 July 2026)
Michéle Quinn (appointed 16 April 2026)
Prof. Janice Walshe
Alex White (resigned 12 September 2025)

CHAIR

Allan Kearns

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Nikki Gallagher

COMPANY SECRETARY

Emma Browne

BANKERS

AIB Bank, 9 Terenure Road, Rathgar, Dublin 6

SOLICITORS

Hayes Solicitors, Lavery House, Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2

INVESTMENT ADVISERS

RBC Brewin Dolphin, Number One Ballsbridge, Building 1, Shelbourne Road, Dublin 4

AUDITORS

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

Notes





Irish Cancer Society
43/45 Northumberland Road
Dublin 4
Ireland

www.cancer.ie

T: +353 (01) 231 0500
E: info@irishcancer.ie