



Office of A.N.D. Older People and Palliative Care - Strategy  
Services for Older People  
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4<sup>th</sup> July 2019  
Deputy Louise O' Reilly TD  
Dáil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy O' Reilly,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to this Department for response.

***PQ Ref: 27258/19***

**To ask the Minister for Health the estimated cost of implementing the national dementia strategy in full.**

The National Dementia Strategy was published in 2014. The Atlantic Philanthropies agreed to invest €12.5 million into the implementation of the Strategy, which was matched by funding of €15 million from the Department of Health/HSE. This investment allowed for a number of critical key actions to be resourced, including the development of education and resource materials for primary care, the testing of the concept of Dementia-Specific Intensive Homecare Packages, a public awareness campaign and the establishment of the National Dementia Office. Additional actions are being targeted through the reconfiguration of current resources, alternative funding streams and consideration within future resource allocation. An Implementation Plan for the National Dementia Strategy was developed which identifies key deliverables and some indicative timelines for each of the actions outlined in the Strategy. The National Dementia Office (NDO) was established to monitor and drive the implementation of the Strategy,

In addition to the funding received above\_€2,226,550 has been awarded through Dormant Accounts funding; €996,550 in 2016, and €1.23m in 2017; € 3,801,214 in 2018, to implement a range of initiatives that align with the strategy which were unfunded.

A full report on the implementation of the National Dementia Strategy to date was published by the Department of Health in May 2018 and is available on the understand together website at <http://www.understandtogether.ie/news-and-events/news/Mid-term-review-final-English-22-05-2018.pdf>

The Review identified that a significant amount of work is currently ongoing to implement the actions of the Strategy. The vast majority of actions have been commenced.

As part of the Memorandum of understanding with the Atlantic Philanthropies, Department of Health and the Health Service Executive, funding was allocated for an external, independent evaluation of the NDS. The report is almost complete, one of the recommendations for the National Dementia Office will be to develop an adaptable, costed implementation plan to deliver on the actions of the National Dementia strategy taking into account the emerging needs and recommendations arising from the evaluation of the strategy. The work programme will be agreed with the Department of Health.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Fitzgerald". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

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**MICHAEL FITZGERALD**  
**A.N.D. Older People and Palliative Care - Strategy**