

Peter Fox MS

Health and Social Care Committee
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1SN

Dear Chair,

Working Together for a Transformational Dementia Plan in Wales

We are writing to you as a newly formed sub-group of the Welsh NHS Confederation's Health and Wellbeing Alliance focussing on the development of the new Dementia Action Plan. We are organisations who are united by a shared commitment of improving the lives of people affected by dementia in Wales.

Co-chaired by the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists and Alzheimer's Society Cymru, this group brings together a wide range of expertise from across health, social care, and the voluntary sector. We are committed to speaking with a collaborative and unified voice to support the development of a renewed Dementia Action Plan; one that is transformational in its ambition and delivery.

We welcome the Welsh Government's commitment to developing a new plan. However, we know that for people living with dementia and their carers, delays in assessments, diagnosis, and support have real consequences. Every day, individuals across Wales face the emotional, practical, and financial challenges of dementia—often without the joined-up support they need. Families are stretched, carers are exhausted, and services are under pressure

There are around 51,000 people living with dementia in Wales and by 2040, this figure is set to increase to almost 70,000 people, with 1 in 3 people born today projected to develop the condition.

Dementia represents one of the biggest health and social care challenges of our time. This is why we believe the new plan represents a huge opportunity to be bold and to deliver real change for people living with dementia and their loved ones. It must be rooted in lived experience, backed by clinical expertise, and provide clear accountability and workforce planning. The new plan must focus on improving quality of life for people living with dementia now and in the future through active engagement in research and innovation, early diagnosis, and delivery of transformative treatments as they emerge.

Our sub-group brings together deep expertise and understanding of lived experience, and we are ready to work with the Welsh Government to shape and deliver a plan that meets the scale of the challenge across prevention; diagnosis treatment and support; social care; end of life care; and research. We will continue to advocate for the voices of people affected by dementia and ensure that progress is visible, measurable, and impactful.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss how we can work together to ensure the new dementia plan delivers real change for people living with dementia across Wales.

To arrange a meeting please email Eleanor.Roberts@Alzheimers.org.uk. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Caroline Walters

Co-Chair

External Affairs Manager

Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists

Gemma Roberts

Co-Chair

National Influencing Manager

Alzheimer's Society

