

Alzheimer Scotland's Election 2016 Pledge on Dementia

I support Alzheimer Scotland's vision of a Scotland that upholds the human rights of people living with dementia, recognising them as equal citizens, afforded dignity and respect and empowered to exercise choice and control in their lives.

To achieve this, I will work with colleagues in Government and new health and social care Integrated Joint Boards to:

1. Help people who need one to get an earlier diagnosis:

I will raise awareness of dementia, and encourage my local Integrated Joint Board to respond to the needs of people who have concerns about dementia so they feel supported and respected.

2. Make sure people with dementia and their carers get the support they need after a dementia diagnosis:

I will urge my local Integrated Joint Board to put in place quality support for people after they have received a dementia diagnosis, so that they are able to live as independently as possible, for as long as possible, and to plan for the future.

3. Provide everyone with dementia with the integrated and coordinated care they need:

I will work with local Integrated Joint Boards to make sure that people with dementia can access the different types of care they need, and that these are arranged in a coordinated way that supports their individual quality of life, by a person who they know.

4. To support people with dementia and their carers through advanced dementia and at the end of life:

I will press the Integrated Joint Boards to recognise the value of continuity of care for people with dementia and make sure that the necessary expertise is available to the existing team to help them continue to support the person and their carer through advanced dementia and at the end of life.

5. To make sure that hospitals care for people with dementia properly:

I will ensure the experiences and voices of people with dementia, their families and carers are heard by hospital leaders to drive improvements in care in hospitals.

6. To encourage Scotland's ground breaking research into the care, cure and prevention of dementia:

I will champion the globally significant contribution that research in Scotland makes to supporting people living with dementia today and in the future.