## The Policy Landscape

The prevalence of dementia is increasing, and it has become a significant challenge for those who campaign, work with governments and policymakers, to help shape policies to make a better world for people living with dementia.

Statistics from Dementia Statistics Hub, Alzheimer's Research UK, confirms that one in every two of us will be affected by dementia at some point in our lives, either by caring for someone with the condition, developing it ourselves, or both. Currently, 944,000 people are living with dementia in the UK. This number is expected to increase to over one million by 2030 and to over 1.6 million by 2050.

At Caring Homes, we believe that by raising awareness of dementia more widely, we can play our part and help reduce the stigma around dementia and encourage a supportive community for those who are touched by dementia.

Here is some further information and insights around the important strategic conversations and the drive to maintain better understanding, knowledge and support around dementia.

## Government Strategy

In May 2022, speaking at Alzheimer's Society Conference, the then Health Secretary announced a 10-year plan for Dementia and where that plan would be delivered by the end of the year – recognising dementia as one of the biggest health and care challenges of our time. The plan would focus on how new medicines and emerging science and technology could be harnessed to improve outcomes for dementia patients across the country and to support people with their specific health and care needs while living with dementia.

In May 2023 with a new Health Secretary, the Government further announced its Major Conditions Strategy instead. This is to tackle the main causes of ill-health, ensure care is patient-focused and relieve stress on the health and care system and included Dementia.

This would set out a 'strong and coherent policy agenda' that indicates a 'shift to integrated, whole-person care further developing the NHS Long Term Plan'.

This call for evidence seeks views on how best to prevent, diagnose treat and manage six major groups of conditions that contribute to disease in England and include:

- Cancers
- Cardiovascular diseases, including stroke and diabetes
- Chronic respiratory diseases
- Dementia
- Mental ill health
- Musculoskeletal disorders

This allows the public, charities, patient groups and other stakeholders to inform the **Major Conditions Strategy**, helping to build consensus on what actions need to be prioritised.



**Alzheimer's UK** are actively campaigning within this process to ensure that dementia has a whole system solution and long term plan of its own, separate from other conditions and for the delivery of the promised 10-year plan for dementia.

## **Discover Why Caring Homes**

With over 30 years in the Care sector, we run a network of high-quality care, nursing and dementia care homes with wonderful facilities to suit every kind of resident. Each of our wonderful care homes have beautiful, landscaped gardens with space for residents to explore and feel at peace.

Discover our dedicated <u>Dementia Hub</u> and national network of person-centred nursing and <u>care homes</u>, and why not attend one of our <u>dementia events</u>.

## For further reading and information visit:

2022 Government Strategy on 10 year plan for Dementia - <u>Health Secretary announces 10-year plan for dementia - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>

Dementia Statistics Hub, Alzheimer's Research UK – <u>Dementia Statistics Hub</u> | Alzheimer's Research UK

Major Conditions Strategy visit - <u>Major conditions strategy: case for change and our strategic framework - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>

