



# **Alzheimer Scotland**

## **Annual Conference 2025**

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**Every step:  
improving brain health  
informing policy  
influencing care**

**Monday 22 September**  
Edinburgh International  
Conference Centre (EICC)

**#AlzScot25**

# STOP THE CUTS

Our 'Stop the cuts' campaign challenges the devastating cuts being made to health and social care services for people with dementia, their families and carers across Scotland.



You can help us stop the cuts and demand change by adding your voice to our campaign and signing our petition.

Find out more: [www.alzscot.org/stopthecuts](http://www.alzscot.org/stopthecuts)  
Share your support with: **#StopTheCuts**



@alzscot



@AlzheimerScotland



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**Alzheimer  
Scotland**  
Action on Dementia

## Information for delegates

All conference sessions, refreshments, lunch and our marketplace will be held in the Lennox Suite. If you need assistance at any time, please ask a member of the Alzheimer Scotland event team (wearing purple t-shirts). We have a dedicated Quiet Space available in the Moffat Room. This will be signposted.

To connect to the EICC Wi-Fi, please use these details:

**Network: delegate**

**Password: haymarket**

**9.30am – 10.30am**

Registration, teas & coffees, breakfast & marketplace

**10.30am – 11.25am**

Opening session

## Our speakers

- **Welcome from Active Voice**  
A warm welcome from our two Active Voice groups – Rynagh Flynn from the Scottish Dementia Working Group (SDWG) and Frank Stephen from the National Dementia Carers Action Network (NDCAN).
- **Alzheimer Scotland address**  
Henry Simmons, Chief Executive of Alzheimer Scotland
- **Ministerial address**  
Tom Arthur MSP, Minister for Social Care and Mental Wellbeing



**11.25am – 12.40pm**  
**Session 1**

## **Never too early, never too late – how brain health is changing conversations and changing lives**

Discover how supporting brain health across all stages of life can reduce dementia risk and empower everyday action. This session highlights the latest evidence, practical strategies, and inspiring examples of how our programmes are transforming conversations and improving lives.

The session will be opened by Marion Ritchie from NDCAN and Danny Murphy from SDWG.

**After the presentations, there will be a Q&A session.**



### **Our speakers**

- **Gillian Council,**  
**Director of Brain Health and Development,**  
**Alzheimer Scotland**
- **Marri Welsh,**  
**Director of Communications and Operations,**  
**Alzheimer Scotland**
- **Joanna Crispell,**  
**Brain Health Engagement Lead,**  
**Alzheimer Scotland**



**12.40pm - 2.30pm**

*Lunch, networking, marketplace & focus sessions*

**Our focus sessions run concurrently from  
1.40pm to 2.20pm – you can choose from:**

**Option 1**  
Main Hall

Henry McLeish, Former First Minister and Alzheimer Scotland Ambassador will be launching Alzheimer Scotland's policy manifesto. This will be followed by a Q&A session.

**Option 2**  
Lammermuir  
Suite

Hear from Playlist for Life, the Care Inspectorate and Healthcare Improvement Scotland/Focus on Dementia as they share project updates. This will be followed by a Q&A session.

**2.30pm - 2.50pm**

**Keynote speaker – Sanjeev Kohli**

Our keynote speaker is Scottish actor and comedian, Sanjeev Kohli, who will be talking about his personal experience of his late dad having Alzheimer's disease.



**2.50pm – 4.05pm**

## Session 2

### **The power of knowledge – how today's research is shaping tomorrow's dementia care**

This session will look at the recent work being done to improve care for people living with dementia. From day care and therapeutic activity to looking at advanced dementia in care homes and the current state of long term care, our speakers will deliver a thought-provoking session on this crucial issue.

The session will be opened by Elaine Deehan from NDCAN and Stuart Dougall from SDWG.

**After the presentations, there will be a Q&A session.**



### **Our speakers**

- **Dr Jenni Burton, NES/CSO Postdoctoral Clinical Lecturer and Honorary Specialist Registrar in Geriatric Medicine, University of Glasgow & NHS Lanarkshire**  
'Advanced dementia in Scotland's care homes – research to support care'
- **Professor Debbie Tolson, Emeritus Alzheimer Scotland Professor of Dementia, University of the West of Scotland**  
'Day care matters'
- **Henry Simmons, Chief Executive of Alzheimer Scotland**  
'An overview of the current state of long term care, and hope for future long term care provision'



**4.05pm - 4.15pm**

(closing remarks from Chief Executive, Henry Simmons)



**Alzheimer  
Scotland**  
Action on Dementia

## **We are Scotland's national dementia charity**

Help us continue our vital work by  
making a donation today



[www.alzscot.org/donate](http://www.alzscot.org/donate)

*Thank you for your support*

*We hope you have enjoyed today and  
would appreciate your feedback.*

**Please scan the QR code to access our  
evaluation form.**



**Alzheimer  
Scotland**  
Action on Dementia

Prevent.  
Care.  
Cure.