

2026 BUDGET ASKS

ASTHMA SOCIETY OF IRELAND



Our vision is that everyone in Ireland lives a full life, symptom-free.

1



UNIVERSALLY SUBSIDISE INHALED ASTHMA MEDICATIONS

- + Introduce universal subsidisation of asthma medication and related devices on a phased basis: **€14 million**
- + Publish a full review of the Long-Term Illness Scheme
- + Reduce the Drugs Payment Scheme threshold to €72 per month: **€15.5 million**
- + Abolish medical card prescription charges: **€69 million**

2



OPTIMISE SEVERE ASTHMA CARE

- + Establish a Severe Asthma Registry: **€500,000**
- + Implement Phase 1 of the FoRT proof-of-concept pilot study: **€135,700**
- + Expedite reimbursement of Tezepelumab for severe asthma patients
- + Continue to invest in biologic therapies for severe asthma

3



INCREASE CAPACITY IN OUR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

- + Ensure that every severe asthma clinic has a qualified Advanced Nurse Practitioner
- + Ringfence funding to re-open and fill Respiratory Physiologist positions
- + Establish a CORU register for Physiologists: **€750,000**

DEPARTMENT/AGENCY

- Dept. of Finance
- Dept. of Health
- Health Service Executive
- Dept. of Social Protection
- Dept. of Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation

- Dept. of Finance
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- CORU



4



EXPAND ACCESS TO VACCINATIONS TO PROTECT VULNERABLE PATIENTS

- + Offer the enhanced flu vaccine to people over 65 years (**€3.8 million**), with a focus on those with chronic lung diseases
- + Introduce an RSV immunisation pathfinder programme for older adults with chronic lung diseases
- + Align pneumococcal vaccine access with the seasonal flu programme

5



DISINCENTIVISE SMOKING AND E-CIGARETTE USE

- + Increase the cost of cigarettes by 50c per pack: **€35 million yield**
- + Commence the E-liquid Products Tax (EPT): **€17 million yield**
- + Increase annual funding for smoking cessation services by **€29.05 million**

6



SUPPORT ASTHMA-FRIENDLY HOMES AND ENVIRONMENTS

- + Increase Carbon Tax: **€143 million yield**
- + Conduct an analysis of the distributional effects of Carbon Taxation policies
- + Fund a targeted communications campaign for people with chronic lung diseases and retrofit 1,000 additional homes under the Warmer Homes Scheme: **€29.5 million**
- + Re-commit to the 2:1 ratio of capital investment on public transport

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- Dept. of Climate, Energy and the Environment
- Dept. of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

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