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# Alzheimer's Society responds to tweets from Katie Hopkins

Tuesday 7 April, 2015

Over the weekend Katie Hopkins made several remarks regarding dementia on Twitter.

In one tweet Hopkins suggested that people with dementia should not be "blocking" hospital beds.

In response, George McNamara, Head of Policy and Public Affairs at Alzheimer's Society, said:

'These disgraceful remarks only serve to reinforce the stigma that sadly prevents many people with dementia from feeling like valued members of society.

'Ill-informed comments such as these go against all that we know about dementia. People with the condition tell us that with the right support it is entirely possible to live well and take real enjoyment out of daily life.

'The 850,000 people living with dementia in the UK deserve far more than to be used as bait by people stoking controversy.'

- Ends -

Notes to editors:

225,000 will develop dementia this year, that's one every three minutes

Alzheimer's Society research shows that 850,000 people in the UK have a form of dementia. In less than ten years a million people will be living with dementia. This will soar to two million people by 2051

Dementia costs the UK economy over £26 Billion per year. This is the equivalent of more than £30,000 per person with dementia.

Alzheimer's Society champions the rights of people living with dementia and the millions of people who care for them

Alzheimer's Society works in England, Wales and Northern Ireland

Alzheimer's Society supports people to live well with dementia today and funds research to find a cure for tomorrow. We rely on voluntary donations to continue our vital work. You can donate now by calling 0845 306 0898 or visiting <u>alzheimers.org.uk</u>

Alzheimer's Society provides a National Dementia Helpline, the number is 0300 222 11 22 or visit <u>alzheimers.org.uk</u>

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