Alzheimer's Society

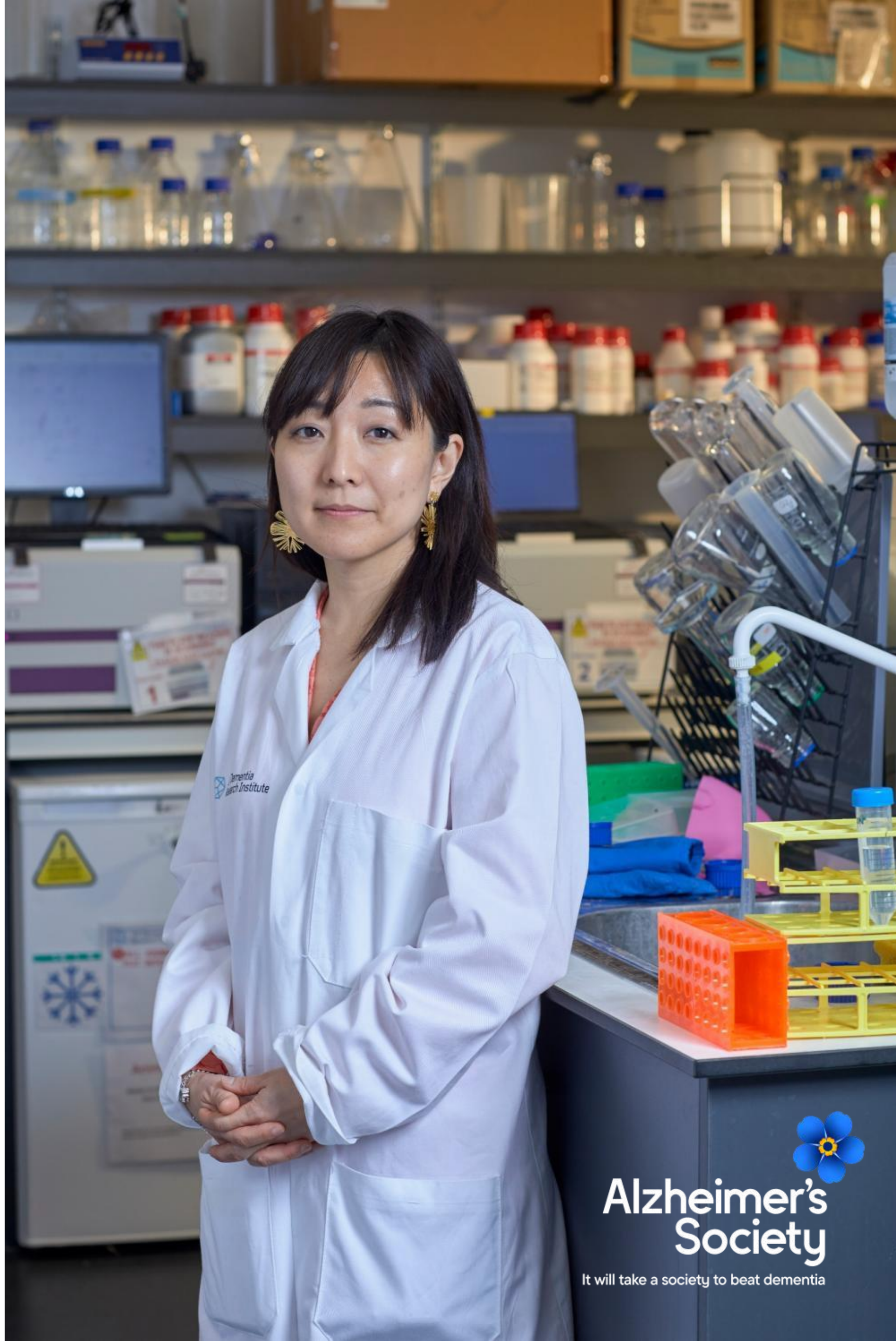
• Appointment Brief

Appointment of the Chief Financial Officer

Alzheimer's Society

Saxton Bampfylde

August 2026 **Reference** NCBDA



Michelle Dyson CB
Chief Executive,
Alzheimer's Society

Welcome message

Dear Candidate,

Dementia is one of the greatest challenges of our age. It is now the UK's biggest killer, touching almost every family, and one in three people born today will develop it. The human, social and economic costs are profound, but so too is the opportunity to change what the future looks like.

We are at a pivotal moment. Dementia is now firmly on the new Prime Minister's agenda, and Alzheimer's Society is determined to make the most of this opportunity to secure the best possible outcomes for people living with dementia, both now and in the future. The CFO will play a pivotal role in ensuring we invest our resources effectively to maximise our impact and deliver against this ambition.

Recent advances in prevention, diagnosis and treatment mean that a radically different future for dementia is now genuinely within reach. For the first time, there is real hope on the horizon but at the same time the experience of dementia for those living with the disease and their carers remains extremely difficult. We have a huge opportunity to convert the hope into something tangible - a huge challenge but a surmountable one. At Alzheimer's Society, we believe it will take a society to beat dementia, and that belief drives everything we do.

As Chief Financial Officer, you would play a central role in turning that belief into reality. As a core member of the Executive Leadership Team, working closely with me and our Board of Trustees, you will shape our long-term financial sustainability, strengthen governance and assurance, and ensure we deploy our resources in the most impactful way possible. This is a role that combines rigour with ambition: protecting the organisation today while enabling the bold choices required for the future.

We are a c.£160m organisation with strong foundations, talented people and plans to grow our impact significantly. That means thinking creatively about investment, funding models and partnerships, and ensuring finance is a forward looking, enabling function that gives confidence to innovate, across research, services and system influence.

Every role at Alzheimer's Society contributes to bringing help and hope to people affected by dementia. This role is no exception: the decisions you help shape will directly influence how many people we support today, how quickly breakthroughs reach those who need them, and how effectively we can change the system for the long term.

If you are an experienced, values led finance leader who is energised by complexity, motivated by purpose, and excited by the chance to help shape a future where dementia no longer devastates lives, I would be delighted to hear from you.

Thank you for your interest in Alzheimer's Society.

Michelle

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About us

Dementia is the UK's biggest killer, and one in three people born in the UK today will develop the disease in their lifetime. Alzheimer's Society is the UK's leading dementia charity, and the only one to tackle all aspects of dementia by giving help and hope to people living with dementia today and in the future.

Lack of treatments and a postcode lottery for care means that people with dementia and their families are not getting what they need, when they need it: from getting a diagnosis, to coming to terms with how life will change to needing hospitalisation and finding the right long-term support.

Alzheimer's Society will not rest until dementia no longer devastates lives.

This is a pivotal and exciting time for us. Public awareness is higher than ever before, we have grown quickly into a £160m organisation with ambitious plans to continue to grow further, and an equally ambitious vision for the impact that funding will enable. There is a real opportunity to drive meaningful, system-wide change in the years ahead, and we are determined to seize it.

With every discovery, every learning and every step forward comes the desire to do more, and the belief that we can achieve more.

Founded in 1979, Alzheimer's Society is the only dementia charity to give vital support to people who need it, while also funding groundbreaking research and campaigning to make dementia the priority it should be.

We operate across England, Wales, and Northern Ireland and employ 1,800 staff. We were named in The Sunday Times Best Places to Work 2025.

We have a large and passionately engaged volunteer base of round 6,000 who dramatically extend and enhance our impact.

About us

Alzheimer's Society's latest audited financial statements and annual report are available here.

Details of its governance are available here.

At Alzheimer's Society, we know the steps it will take to create a future where dementia no longer devastates lives. As the UK's biggest dementia charity, we're leading the way – toking those crucial steps together with people from all the areas of life dementia touches.

Our Help and Hope Strategy is our ambitious plan to create measurable impact across the many areas we need to influence to transform the current and future experience of dementia. Our four strategic priorities are:

Improving diagnosis: Ensuring more people get an accurate diagnosis faster, and receive a seamless transition into effective ongoing support, including from Alzheimer's Society.

Dementia support: Reaching more people through our services and resources – especially those with the least ability to support themselves or each other, and the communities that rarely receive support and experience the detrimental effects of health inequality.

Making dementia a priority: Driving an increase in understanding and awareness of dementia, and our role in delivering a solution. This includes influencing local and national decision-makers, as well as the public.

Effective organisation: Improving the effectiveness of our people, processes and technology to deliver services, influence, research and run the organisation safely and legally, and raise the funds we need to do all of this.

Alzheimer's Society

Chief Financial Officer

The Chief Financial Officer is a key executive leadership role at Alzheimer's Society, providing strategic financial leadership and stewardship at a time of ambition, change, and impact.

Reporting to the Chief Executive, the CFO shapes organisational strategy, ensures long-term financial sustainability, and builds an inclusive culture, focused on impact and efficiency.

The CFO leads a broad finance & assurance directorate, spanning finance, risk, procurement, audit and compliance.

The CFO works closely with the CEO, Board of Trustees to balance rigorous governance and commercial insight with a deep commitment to purpose, enabling the Society to maximise its impact for everyone affected by dementia, today and in the future.

Key Accountabilities

- Executive leadership of the finance and assurance directorate, including finance, procurement, risk, audit, and compliance.
- Organisation-wide financial strategy, long-term financial planning and sustainability.
- Oversight of budgeting, forecasting, scenario planning, and performance reporting.
- Strong financial governance, controls, statutory compliance and assurance.
- Leadership of enterprise-wide risk management and business continuity.
- High-quality financial insight and advice to the CEO, ELT, board and committees, enabling strong financial stewardship, and strategic planning across the organisation.
- Ensure the performance of the Society's commissioned contracts.
- Oversight of investments, procurement and value-for-money frameworks.
- Culture-building: inclusive, values-led and high-performing teams.

Person specification

Experience, skills & qualifications

- Qualified accountant.
- Significant senior financial leadership experience, gained within a complex, customer-focused organisation.
- Successful track record at executive level, shaping strategy and outcomes.
- Successful track record within large, complex organisations with diverse programmes of activity.
- Broad functional leadership across finance, governance, risk management, and organisational performance.
- Strong understanding of regulatory, compliance and assurance environments.
- Evidence of continuous improvement, and leadership of high-performing teams. A successful track record of embedding change within the function, and across an organisation.
- Experience in a charity, at either executive or board level.

Personal Attributes

- Values-driven, committed to Alzheimer's Society's mission, and culture of inclusion & impact.
- Strategic, long-term thinker, capable of balancing the charity's near-term operational imperatives with its 2050 goals.
- Assured and influential, able to contribute to and shape decision-making at board and executive committee levels.
- Collaborative and inclusive leadership style, focused on building high-performing teams.
- Ambitious, enables the organisation's mission and impact.
- Resilient, capable of operating in a complex, evolving environment.

How to apply

Saxton Bampfylde Ltd is acting as an employment agency advisor to Alzheimer's Society on this appointment.

Candidates should apply for this role through our website at **roles.saxbam.com** using code **NCBDA**

Click on the 'apply' button and follow the instructions to upload a CV and cover letter and complete the online equal opportunities monitoring* form.

The closing date for applications is noon on **Monday 31 August**.

Terms of appointment

- A competitive salary for a charitable organisation will be offered.
- The working pattern is hybrid, averaging two days-per-week in our London HQ.
- The role is offered on a permanent basis.

* The equal opportunities monitoring online form will not be shared with anyone involved in assessing your application. Please complete as part of the application process.

GDPR personal data notice

According to GDPR guidelines, we are only able to process your Sensitive Personal Data (racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership, genetic data, biometric data, health, sex life, or sexual orientation) with your express consent. You will be asked to complete a consent form when you apply and please do not include any Sensitive Personal Data within your CV (although this can be included in your covering letter if you wish to do so), remembering also not to include contact details for referees without their prior agreement.

- **Read our guide to writing cover letters**

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