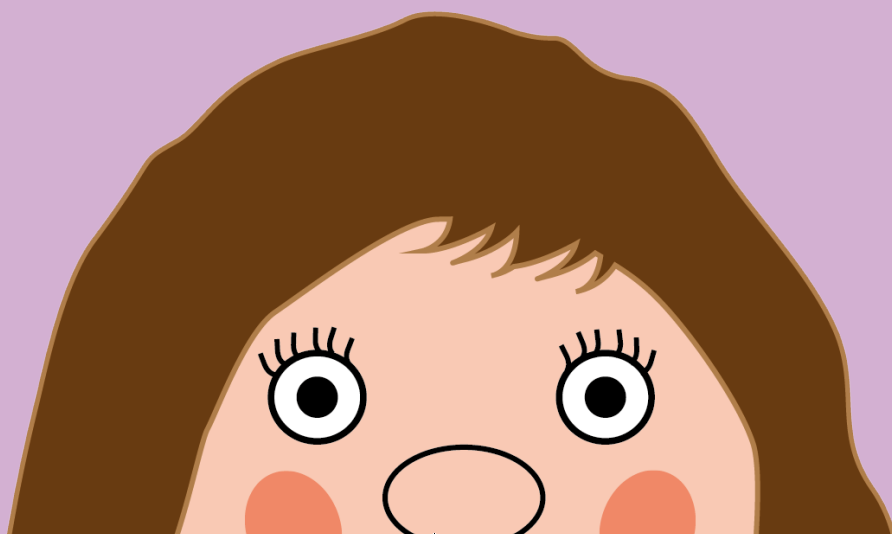


**Things to consider  
if you are concerned  
about a person  
living with dementia  
going missing**

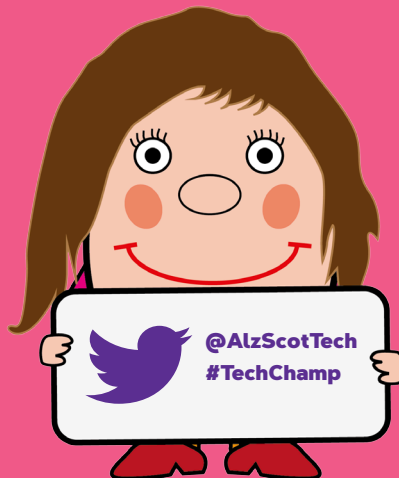


# Introduction

**These guidelines have been written to help people living with dementia, families, carers and care providers to think about the practical steps they can take.**

**There are 90,000 people living with dementia in Scotland (2017). It is estimated that 40% of people living with dementia will be reported missing at some point and may be missing on multiple occasions.**

**Alzheimer Scotland and partners in Health and Social Care, Police Scotland and Community Safety Glasgow have developed these guidelines in consultation with people living with dementia, families and carers. We hope that they will enable you to have conversations about staying safe and well, and to think about putting things in place for the future.**



**tec@alzscot.org**

# MISSING

If you think a person living with dementia is missing, check with immediate family and in the surrounding area - home, garden, and neighbours house.



Phone  
Police Scotland  
**999**



**REMEMBER**  
Let Police Scotland know if the person living with dementia returns at any point.

Quest  
Do you  
Have th  
Have th  
Do the

Consider phoning round people and places where the person living with dementia usually visits.

Remain contactable for updates and in case the person living with dementia returns. Keep your phone line free and get help with phoning around and updating friends and family.

Does the person living with dementia have a profile document? If so access it now and let Police Scotland know.

## Send a Purple Alert

### **Families and carers**

should consider what to do in the future.  
Are there safeguards that could be put in place?

## **SAFE+WELL**

When the person living with dementia returns....

### **Police Scotland**

will give advice and support to help with future missing person concerns.

### **Questions to ask yourself.....**

**Do you know what they were wearing?**

**Do they have money or bank cards?**

**Do they have a travel card?**

**Do they have a car and do you know the vehicle registration?**



# Consider things you can do **NOW**





**Consider getting  
information and  
ADVICE**

# Consider putting things in place for the FUTURE



# Glossary of terms

**First Responder Card** – Gives access to important details about you, if you aren't able to communicate them and need help. Save your information to a secure online database, then carry the card with you. Various versions of the card are available from online sellers including [www.amazon.co.uk](http://www.amazon.co.uk) from £5.

**Befriending Services** are available in Scotland. Information on local services can be found on the Befriending Network's website. [www.bit.ly/be\\_friend](http://www.bit.ly/be_friend)

**Support Worker** – you may be able to access personalised support to help with everyday living. [www.bit.ly/Support\\_W](http://www.bit.ly/Support_W)

**GNSS (Global Navigation Satellite Systems)** you may be more familiar with the term GPS (Global Positioning Systems) which has been in use for some time in cars and mobile phones. GNSS devices are usually worn by the person living with dementia to assist them to walk safely and be located if necessary. [www.bit.ly/G\\_N\\_S\\_S](http://www.bit.ly/G_N_S_S)

**Post Diagnostic Support** – a person newly diagnosed with dementia in Scotland is entitled to post-diagnostic services, intended to enable the person and their family to understand and adjust to the diagnosis, connect with services and plan for future care. [www.bit.ly/Five\\_P](http://www.bit.ly/Five_P)

**Health and Social Care Organisations** provide a variety of services and supports, including telecare (see below).

**Telecare** is a package of technology that can be tailored to meet individual requirements and can let those who care for you know how you are doing or if you need help. [www.bit.ly/T\\_E\\_C](http://www.bit.ly/T_E_C)

**Dementia Circle** is an Alzheimer Scotland initiative that helps people living with dementia stay independent for longer in their own homes, or in a homely setting by sharing reviews of products and services tried, useful information and resources. Go to the website [www.dementiacircle.org](http://www.dementiacircle.org)





# Glossary of terms

**Record** - This could be an informal note retained within the family outlining the person living with dementia's wishes, or a more formal **Care Plan** recording how a person living with dementia wishes to be cared for. [www.bit.ly/Care\\_Plan](http://www.bit.ly/Care_Plan)

**Power of Attorney** is where you grant someone else the power to run your affairs for you if you become mentally incapacitated in the future, for any reason through illness (such as dementia) or accident. A lawyer would assist with this.

[www.bit.ly/PoAttorney](http://www.bit.ly/PoAttorney)

**Profile** - It may be helpful to write down or keep an online copy of what the person living with dementia looks like, usually wears and where they like to go. A recent photograph would be useful too. It could save time to have this if needed by the Police. Refer to **The Herbert Protocol**

**Protocol** (POLICE) for a person living with dementia who may be at risk of being missing. **The Herbert Protocol** is a **profile** document that was developed by the Police Service. Contains personal information, including any previous missing incidences. Some Police Services in Scotland use a version of the protocol. [www.bit.ly/H\\_Protocol](http://www.bit.ly/H_Protocol)

**Self Directed Support (SDS)** allows people living with dementia and their families to choose the support they need and how it is delivered and paid for. [www.bit.ly/S\\_D\\_S](http://www.bit.ly/S_D_S)



**Purple Alert** - download this free app to be part of a community that can assist people with dementia if they lose their way. Alzheimer Scotland co-designed the app with people living with dementia and their carers, partners in Health and Social Care and Police Scotland. It was launched in Sept 2017.

[www.bit.ly/PurpleAlertAPP](http://www.bit.ly/PurpleAlertAPP)



**Alzheimer Scotland** provides a wide range of specialist services for people with dementia and their carers - personalised support community activities, information and advice, at every stage of the dementia journey. [www.alzscot.org](http://www.alzscot.org)

# Useful contacts

**Alzheimer Scotland**  
[www.alzscot.org](http://www.alzscot.org)  
**24hr Dementia Helpline**  
**Freephone 0808 808 3000**  
**email: [helpline@alzscot.org](mailto:helpline@alzscot.org)**

**Dementia Friends Scotland**  
[dementiafriendsscotland.org](http://dementiafriendsscotland.org)

**UK Missing Persons Bureau**  
[www.missingpersons.police.uk](http://www.missingpersons.police.uk)

**Dementia Circle**  
[www.dementiacircle.org](http://www.dementiacircle.org)

**Carers Scotland**  
[www.carersuk.org](http://www.carersuk.org)

**Age Scotland**  
[www.ageuk.org.uk/scotland](http://www.ageuk.org.uk/scotland)

**NHS Inform**  
[www.nhsinform.scot](http://www.nhsinform.scot)

