

2024-2025 IMPACT REPORT FAST FACTS



ABOUT THE NEUROLOGICAL ALLIANCE OF SCOTLAND

The Neurological Alliance of Scotland is an umbrella body of organisations that represent people with a neurological condition and those who support them. We work to improve the care and support that people receive. Established in 2004, we inform policy, raise awareness and support improvements in services. We aim to make sure that the experiences of people with neurological conditions - and those around them - are recognised.

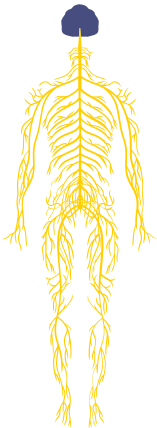
KEY METRICS FROM APRIL 2024- MARCH 2025



We launched our 2024-2027 strategy, driving us to Inform, Connect, Influence and Sustain

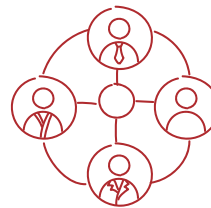


We welcomed five new trustees to our board, increasing diversity of experience, knowledge and thought



In 2024 - 5 we expanded expertise by welcoming FASD Hub, Leuchie, Nerve Tumours UK, Charcot-Marie Tooth UK & Long Covid Scotland

Collectively, our members cover 35 different neurological conditions from ataxia to transverse myelitis, providing expertise, advice and support to an estimated 1,000,000 people in Scotland with a neurological condition



We sit on 15 external groups which work across the public and third sector and contributed to cross sectoral collaboration by supporting the Scottish Government's newly established Neurology Network.



We grew our skills by attending 7 external training courses



We held 30 different meetings, including trustee meetings, members' meetings, policy group meetings, subgroup meetings, external meetings and our AGM



WHERE WE INFORMED



We published our report on how to better support the mental health of people with neurological conditions in May 2024

We have shared our report and invited comment from the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care, the Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport, the Minister for Public Health and Women's Health, the Mental Health Cross Party Group and the Director for Mental Health at Scottish Government

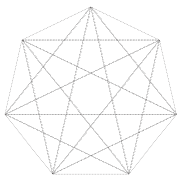
We have developed and actioned a stakeholder engagement plan around our mental health report



We joined with the other UK Neurological Alliances to launch the second National Neurology Patient Experience Survey in Scotland, promoting it amongst our members and the general public.

We received 1,013 responses across Scotland: 776 adult responses, 67 child responses and 170 carers' responses

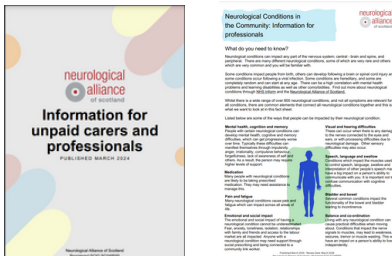
Data will be used to publish a Scotland policy report in the summer of 2025



We expanded our digital footprint by establishing a strong social media presence, achieving 35% growth year on year

Overhauled website management led to a 45% increase in user engagement over the past year

Our monthly newsletters kept our 130 members and supporters up to date on policy, parliamentary and campaigning news



In 2024/25 we continued to promote our information resources, [Information for Unpaid Carers and Professionals \(A-Z\)](#) and [Neurological Conditions in the Community leaflet](#), developed with NAOs members and carer centre representatives.

PRAISE FOR NAOS RESOURCES

"What a brilliant, informative neurological conditions in the community leaflet. We will share widely, such a useful resource."

- MS Argyll

"Thank you for sending us this new resource; it is a valuable addition to our knowledge base."

- Shared Care Scotland

"Thanks for the wonderful resource document you have produced and provided for Unpaid Carers Support Services like ourselves, very clear and hope to make good use of it moving forward."

- Carers Centre South Ayrshire



WHERE WE CONNECTED

We strengthened connections with external partners by inviting seven speakers to attend our meetings, including representatives from the Scottish Government, COSLA, and the Chair of the Independent Review of Adult Disability Payment



We offered further opportunities for collaborative work by establishing a new manifesto subgroup for the 2026 Holyrood elections and continue to have different members' chair our Policy Group



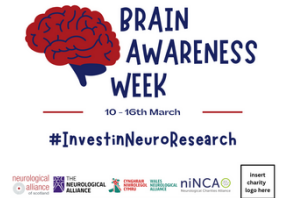
We attended 11 external events, including 7 parliamentary events



We expanded our social media reach by launching Bluesky and TikTok accounts
TikTok: @neuro_alliance_scotland
BlueSky: @neuroalscotland.bsky.social



We led the UK campaign for Brain Awareness Week, co-produced with the UK Neurological Alliances, NAOs members, and people with lived experience. We received content contributions from leading researchers in Scotland from the Brain Health Arc, the Neuroprogressive and Dementia Network, and ENRICH Scotland



WHERE WE INFLUENCED

We attended the launch of the new UK Neuro Forum, bringing together government officials, NHS clinicians and the Neurological Alliances to discuss how to address gaps in treatment and care for people affected by neurological conditions



We Submitted 11 Parliamentary Questions to the Scottish Parliament with responses from Ministers

We submitted four policy consultations on: the Assisted Dying, the Right to Palliative Care, and the Disability Commissioner Bills and the Palliative Care Matters for All Strategy. We gave oral evidence to the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee regarding the Disability Commissioner (Scotland) Bill (Stage 1)



We produced a candidate briefing for the 2024 UK general election and supported the English Neurological Alliance in the Neuro Champions election campaign



We submitted a recommendation to the UK Government Spending Review 2025 calling for greater investment in neurological condition research



We sent official letters to:

- The First Minister on the need for sustainable funding to contribute towards social support provided by charities
- The Minister for Public Health and Women’s Health, Jenni Minto MSP about the financial unsustainability of the neurological third sector
- The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care, Neil Gray MSP, on the need for a new neurological strategy following the end of the Neurological Framework
- The UK Dept Health and Social Care and Dept Science Innovation and Technology on the need for greater investment into neurological condition research
- The Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport, Maree Todd MSP, relaying member’s questions on the National Care Service

WHERE WE SUSTAINED

We joined the SCVO Intermediaries Network, where along with other member organisations, we can discuss issues of shared interest, including financial sustainability

We sent a letter to the First Minister regarding the unsustainability of our charity members who provide unfunded social support to people with neurological conditions

In response to this letter, we were invited to meet with the Minister for Public Health and Women’s Health Jenni Minto MSP, to discuss the economic value of the third sector and the fundamental importance of this being financed adequately in order to meet the demand we are under



There is not enough research on neurological conditions. This has to change.

#InvestinNeuroResearch



Our Brain Awareness Week campaign raised awareness of the critical need for more research investigating neurological conditions

We sent an open letter to the Department of Science, Innovation and Technology highlighting the disparity in funding and presented impactful third sector collaboration on neurological research which could be leveraged through public and private sector partnerships

