2023-2024 IMPACT REPORT FAST FACTS

neurological alliance

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 2023- MARCH 2024



We grew our membership by 6% over the last 12 months



Our coproduced Brain Awareness Week campaign had a 1.17 million reach on social media, up 157% from our 2023 campaign



We hosted 13 influential speakers at events across the year, including two Scottish Ministers



We held 19 events: 5 members meetings 5 executive meetings 1 AGM 5 policy groups 1 Knowledge Sharing Event 2 cross sectorial events

 "Being a member of the Neurological Alliance of Scotland enables us to be connected with the wider neuro community and by working together we can amplify the voice of everyone affected by a neurological condition.
Membership of the Alliance means the needs of polio survivors are highlighted across Scotland."
The British Polio Fellowship

"The Neurological Alliance of Scotland is essential to the MSA Trust to keep up to date with policy issues in Scotland. It provides us with a platform to consult on key health and care issues pertinent to those with neurological conditions in Scotland. The collaboration and consolidation with the other member organisations gives us a more powerful voice to be heard collectively which would not be possible individually."

- The MSA Trust



www.scottishneurological.org.uk

Scottish Charity Number -SC048555

WHERE WE INFORMED



We opened a consultation with all of our members, ran 8 in depth 1:1s and 3 trustee focus groups to develop and launch our new 2024-2027 strategy



Our members receive a monthly newsletter and regular updates through our social media channels

WHERE WE CONNECTED



We worked in partnership with carers centres and members to develop two fact sheets to support unpaid carers and professionals working in carers centres and health and social care



Our policy group kept members informed about influencing opportunities including the National Care Service bill, the mobility component of Adult Disability Payment, the Learning Disability, Autism and Neurodiversity Commissioner bill, the Disability Commissioner bill, as well as developments in selfdirected support



We established a Mental Health subgroup to focus on the mental health of people affected by neurological conditions and met with the Mental Health Foundation



We engaged with 66 carers centres across Scotland in the publication of our Carer Centre mapping report and connected the two sectors together at our Knowledge Sharing Event with plans for further engagement in 2024-5





We hosted a meeting in Edinburgh with the three other UK neurological alliances to foster collaborative work across the UK



We supported the delivery of key commitments in the Neurological Framework for Action, including engaging the neurological third sector with the self-evaluation of neurological standards 1,2 and 7



We met with the Women's Brain Project to learn more about sex differences in the incidence, presentation and management of neurological conditions



We support the development of all of our members by having a rotating chairperson of our policy group, giving smaller organisations the opportunity to network, build capacity and influence others

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WHERE WE INFLUENCED



Scottish Government Riaghaltas na h-Alba gov.scot

Successful partnership with the Scottish Government in supporting the delivery of Framework outcomes in 2023-2024. We facilitated collaboration between the third sector and health boards in the evaluation of the General Standards for Neurological Care and Support, we explored opportunities for further development of National Care Frameworks, and we connected with the new Regional Network Co-ordinators



We submitted a response to the consultation on the mobility component of Adult Disability Payment. We welcomed Jeremy Balfour MSP and Liam McArthur MSP to our policy group meetings to discuss their respective members' bills – the Disability Commissioner Bill and the Assisted Dying for Terminally III Adults bill



We have representation on the National Advisory Committee for Neurological Conditions, the Service Improvement Forum (SIF), the Neurology Speciality Delivery Group, the Managed Service Network (MSN) for Neurosurgery, and the Scottish Adult Neuro Oncology Network (SANON)

"Like other small service-focused charities Epilepsy Connections has limited resources for policy consultation and development, and lobbying. NAoS amplifies our voice." - **Epilepsy Connections**

"There are hundreds of neurological conditions, many of which are rare, often progressive and life limiting conditions, including those that cause dementia. This can mean that many people with rarer conditions do not have a voice. The Neurological Alliance of Scotland supports the collective voice of people living with neurological conditions, including those living with dementia, to be heard. It enables people with dementia to be recognised as part of that wider community and gives them a platform to share their unique experiences of living with a brain disease."

- Alzheimer Scotland





We end the financial year 2023-2024 by planning celebrations for our 20 year anniversary in 2024





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