



NEUROLOGICAL ALLIANCE  
of IRELAND

ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2023

20 YEARS OF THE  
NEUROLOGICAL  
ALLIANCE  
OF IRELAND



An Roinn Forbartha  
Tuaithe agus Pobail  
Department of Rural and  
Community Development



government supporting communities

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# FOREWORD

**Pascal Derrien**  
Chair Of NAI



**Mags Rogers,**  
Executive Director of NAI

We welcome the opportunity to bring you the 2023 Annual Report for the Neurological Alliance of Ireland.

2023 marked the 20th anniversary of NAI's incorporation as a registered charity. Over the last 20 years, the NAI has worked to establish its reputation as an effective advocacy umbrella, securing key investment in services and increasing its profile as a recognised expert voice on the needs of the 860,000 people living with a neurological condition throughout Ireland.

The previous year, 2022, had seen our largest and most successful advocacy campaign to date, under the Patients Deserve Better platform, which saw an investment of €1.7m investment in neurology nurse specialists announced in Budget 2022: an investment attributed directly to the successful advocacy carried out by the organisations working together under the NAI umbrella.

The second phase of the Patients Deserve Better campaign (Community Neurorehabilitation Teams) successfully continued the achievements of the NAI advocacy programme throughout 2023; from partially staffed community neurorehabilitation teams in just 2 of 9 CHO areas at the start of this campaign, additional full teams of 12 WTE will be funded across 5 CHO areas going forward in the 2024 HSE Service plan. We warmly acknowledge the support of Minister Anne Rabbitte who has outlined her commitment to deliver the network of community neurorehabilitation teams during her tenure as Minister for Disability.

Our advocacy programme in 2023 saw further engagement with the Oireachtas Health Committee for a second successive year, together with a presentation in the AV room and one to one meetings Leinster House as well as a series of online regional events providing an opportunity for NAI members and patient advocates to address elected representatives around the country.

The launch of the report on the Neuromapping Project, a joint initiative between the NAI, Disability Federation of Ireland and the HSE, by Minister for Disability Anne Rabbitte in April 2023, captured for the first time the huge range and breath of the services provided by the voluntary sector to people with neurological conditions and their families throughout Ireland. Phase II of the Neuromapping Project, commenced in late 2023, will input directly into the Community Workstream of the Neurorehabilitation Strategy, an initiative secured by NAI as one of the key aims of its advocacy programme in 2023.

The investment in services and the renewed energy and commitment to the Neurorehabilitation Strategy is testament to the long standing advocacy work of the NAI and its member organisations in this area.

Work began later in the year on the design of our 2024 Patients Deserve Better Campaign, together with a programme of engagement with key stakeholders around advocacy priorities as we look ahead to a likely general election in late 2024/early 2025.

Our commitment to ensuring a voice for all members in the work that we do was reflected in our active programme of engagement with our members all throughout this year, providing multiple opportunities for members to be involved in collective advocacy, receive one to one support and information, and engage in collaborative initiatives aimed at raising awareness and influencing policy.

Our five year plan 2023-2027, published in August 2023 and marking 20 years of the Alliance, was developed through a comprehensive engagement process involving dialogue with our members, lived experience representatives and external stakeholders. Our ambitious plan over the next five years is strategic and focused with the aim of advancing our shared advocacy, whilst also maintaining strong relationships with our key stakeholders and always incorporating the voice of those directly impacted by neurological conditions.

Our achievements in 2023 were only possible through the continued commitment and support of the over thirty voluntary organisations that make up the NAI umbrella. Our collective platform must continue to have as its central focus the sustainability of the voluntary neurological organisations that make up our membership.

We hope that you enjoy this report and look forward to your continued support as we work to build a better future for all those impacted by neurological conditions throughout Ireland.

# 2023 IN NUMBERS

**10,000**

emails sent from  
Patients Deserve Better  
website

**90**

parliamentary questions  
and debates on issues raised  
by NAI across both Houses  
of Oireachtas

**125+**

'Likes' A Day Across  
Social Media during  
Brain Awareness  
Week

**7**

Regional Advocacy  
Events

**20+**

Radio Interviews

**10**

Members Briefing Meetings,  
Information Webinars &  
Networking Opportunities

**50+**

Press articles

**12**

Member Monthly Online  
Newsletters

## NAI VISION

Our vision is an Ireland where people experiencing neurological conditions can achieve their best in life.

## NAI MISSION

Our mission is to be the Alliance that collectively advocates with and for all people experiencing neurological conditions.

## NAI GOALS

Our Our organisational goals are outlined in our five year Strategic Plan 2023-2027 launched in August 2023.

## OUR STRATEGIC GOALS

### 1. Advocacy & Communications

- Stakeholder engagement to explore a common advocacy platform ahead of the General Election.
- Develop a platform and design campaign for General Election.
- Have NAI asks included in new Programme for Government.
- Ensure communications activity is strategic and focused on supporting NAI's advocacy asks, including Brain Awareness Week.

### 2. Members – Engagement & Developing the Network

- Engage with members around their needs in relation to advocacy and how these get reflected in the work of NAI.
- Organise annual information sharing and structured networking event for NAI members.
- Continue active engagement with members on specific advocacy/campaign initiatives.
- Continue monthly newsletter. Ensure all members are signed up to monthly newsletter and conduct a feedback survey.

### 3. Organisational Development: Governance, Risk & Sustainability

- Devise long term financial sustainability plan.
- Diversify funding, including through partnership models.
- Plan to mitigate top five risks.
- Engage in Board succession planning.
- Engage in Staff succession planning.

# TWENTY YEARS OF THE NEUROLOGICAL ALLIANCE OF IRELAND

- 2003** NAI formally established as a registered charity
- 2005** NAI organises its first National Brain Awareness Week to raise the profile of neurological conditions in Ireland
- 2007** NAI and its members successfully advocate for the establishment of a joint DOH/HSE working group to develop a National Neurorehabilitation Strategy which was finally published in 2011
- 2010** NAI launches “The Future for Neurological Conditions in Ireland” report with contributions from across the health & disability landscape
- 2014** NAI successfully campaigns for the restoration of funding to 12 of its member organisations funded under the SSNO scheme
- 2015** NAI publishes the first national survey of neurology resources in Ireland
- 2016** NAI launches “We Need Our Heads Examined” campaign for neurorehabilitation services
- 2018** NAI publishes the first lived experience survey of people with neurological conditions in Ireland
- 2019** One of the key objectives of the NAI’s “We Need Our Heads Examined” campaign achieved with the publication of a long awaited three year implementation plan for the National Neurorehabilitation Strategy
- 2021** NAI publishes the findings of a second national audit of neurology resources 2015-2020
- 2022** NAI secures funding for 23 specialist nurses in neurology through its “Patients Deserve Better” campaign

2023 marked the 20th anniversary of the incorporation of the Neurological Alliance of Ireland (NAI) as a registered charity. Starting with a small group of six organisations, NAI has secured a niche as a united and expert voice on neurological care through advocacy, policy development, and awareness raising. Our membership has grown to over thirty organisations working on behalf of the over 860,000 Irish people living with neurological conditions.



# ABOUT OUR WORK

The Neurological Alliance of Ireland is the voice of the neurological community in Ireland. We are a membership organisation, providing a platform for over 30 Irish charities who provide services and supports for the 860,000 people throughout Ireland who are living with a neurological condition, and their families.

Our purpose is to collectively advocate for the shared and common issues and concerns of our members and, while we do that, to have people experiencing neurological conditions, and their families, achieve their best in life.

Working closely with our members and other stakeholders, NAI acts as a strong platform to drive the development and implementation of policy and best practice to meet the needs of people with neurological conditions and their families throughout Ireland.

We provide an effective network for our members to interface with, and influence key stakeholders including policy makers and public representatives. We act as a specialist hub to inform and influence health policy as it applies to people with neurological conditions and communicate this to our members.

We maintain a very active and responsive communications platform across our websites and social media, as well as internally through our monthly e newsletters.

We also work through partnership with other umbrella organisations, both within Ireland and at European level, to promote greater awareness and support for people living with neurological conditions.







# PROGRESS ON STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES DURING 2023

## ADVOCACY & COMMUNICATIONS

### Recap on 2021 Patients Deserve Better Campaign for Neurology Nurse Specialists

The first in the series of Patients Deserve Better campaigns launched in October 2021, based on the findings of the 2020 NAI National Audit of Neurology Resources, carried out in partnership with the National Clinical Programme in Neurology.

The 2021/2022 campaign focused on the critical shortage of Clinical Nurse Specialists in Neurology Services. A literature review of staffing recommendations across condition areas where recommendations were available was compared with data from the 2020 Neurology Audit on current (November 2020) nurse specialist numbers within neurology services.

This research indicated a shortage of 100 specialist nurses, with specialist nursing numbers in condition-specific areas such as MS and Parkinson's disease falling far short

of recommended minimum staffing for the Irish population, while many conditions such as Huntington's disease had no specialist nurse at all for the whole of the country.

The 2021/2022 Patients Deserve Better campaign resulted in investment of €1.7m in neurology nurses, a success directly attributed to the successful advocacy carried out by member organisations working together under the NAI umbrella.

It is important to note that NAI's involvement in this area did not end with the securing of 21 specialist nursing posts. NAI continued its focus on this area throughout 2023: working in partnership to support the work of the newly established Neurology Nursing Forum to ensure the development of a strong representative organisation for neurology nursing. The INNFF addressed the NAI AGM in November 2023, together with the newly appointed National Clinical Lead for Neurology Professor Sinéad Murphy.



## Patients Deserve Better Campaign (Community Neurorehabilitation Teams)

Following on from the success of the first Patients Deserve Better Campaign, work began on a further campaign in Q 2 2022.

Working closely with our industry partners, and of our member organisations and with the support of Rehabilitation specialists and other key stakeholders, NAI launched its second Patients Deserve Better Campaign (Community Neurorehabilitation Teams) in November 2022.

The campaign focused on the recommendation of the 2019-2021 National Neurorehabilitation Strategy Implementation Framework, which committed to a rollout of nine community neurorehabilitation teams, one in each HSE Community Health Organisation (CHO) area nationwide. At the time of the campaign launch, in November 2022, the lack of progress in the rollout of these teams was stark. Only two of the 9 CHO areas had teams in place (CHOs 1 and 3) while even these teams were only partially staffed.

A series of seven launch events were organised from November 2022 to June 2023, targeting the seven CHO areas without a dedicated community neurorehabilitation team and inviting local elected representatives to hear from medical

Consultants and those with lived experience in relation to the need for a dedicated team in their CHO area. In March 2023, the four clinical programmes across neurological care: in Neurology, Rehabilitation Medicine, Stroke and Dementia joined with NAI members at a presentation in the audio visual (AV) room in Leinster House in support of the campaign.

This was followed by a presentation to the Oireachtas Committee on Health on May 17th where there was considerable support for addressing the delays in implementing the 2019 Framework for the Neurorehabilitation Strategy, including the delivery of community neurorehabilitation teams. On May 24th, HSE representatives, including the CEO, were questioned by the Committee and requested to provide clear timeframes for the rollout of the teams nationwide.

NAI were delighted with a second impactful campaign: from community neurorehabilitation teams in just 2 of 9 CHO areas at the start of the campaign, additional teams will be funded across 5 CHO areas going forward in the 2024 HSE Service plan. We warmly acknowledge the support of Minister Anne Rabbitte who spoke at our AGM in November 2022, outlining her commitment to deliver the network of community neurorehabilitation teams during her tenure as Minister for Disability.

## Patients Deserve Better Campaign: Community Neurorehabilitation Teams

### **November 2022:**

*Start of campaign. Only 2 (partially staffed) teams established out of 9 promised in 2019*

### **March 2023:**

*AV Room Presentation at Leinster House*

### **May 2023:**

*Presentation to Oireachtas Health Committee*

**Campaign Outcome:  
Funding commitment secured for 5  
additional teams to be rolled out in 2024**





Consideration of access to community neurological rehabilitation teams



Consideration of access to community neurological rehabilitation teams



Consideration of access to community neurological rehabilitation teams



Consideration of access to community neurological rehabilitation teams



Consideration of access to community neurological rehabilitation teams



DAVID CULLINANE TD | SINN FÉIN | WATERFORD  
JOINT COMMITTEE Consideration of access to community neuro rehabilitation teams



MARK WARD TD | SINN FÉIN | DUBLIN MID-WEST & TD  
JOINT COMMITTEE Consideration of access to community neuro rehabilitation teams



Consideration of access to community neurological rehabilitation teams



Consideration of access to community neurological rehabilitation teams



Mary Cusserly, a patient representative living with Parkinson's Disease.

The rollout of community neurorehabilitation teams represents just one aspect of the specialist community based neurorehabilitation services outlined in the 2019 Implementation Framework for the Neurorehabilitation Strategy

A central focus of the 2023 campaign for Community Neurorehabilitation Teams was ensuring that the establishment of a dedicated Community Workstream by the National Steering Group responsible for the Neurorehabilitation Strategy. NAI is delighted that this aim has been achieved and the workstream had its first meeting in November 2023.

The investment in services and the renewed energy and commitment to the Neurorehabilitation Strategy is testament to the long standing advocacy work of the NAI and its member organisations in this area.





## Publication of Report from NAI project on COVID19

The report of the NAI project on the impact of COVID19 on access to care for people with neurological conditions was published in September 2023.

The report followed on from a series of workshops and one to one interviews with service users and service providers in late 2022 and early 2023.

*“The COVID19 pandemic exposed the underdevelopment and lack of capacity across neurology and neurorehabilitation services which were significantly overstretched pre pandemic. This is borne out by the findings of this report, highlighting the ongoing impact on patients and their families.*

*The findings from this report are a timely warning that investment in neurological care is critically needed at a time when demand for these services continues to grow. This includes investing in and protecting the vital services and supports provided by not for profit neurological organisations which form such an integral part of neurological care provision throughout Ireland”.*

From the foreword to the report by HSE National Lead for In Long Covid  
Professor Siobhan ni Bhrian and National Clinical Lead for Neurology  
Professor Orla Hardiman

## NAI Advocacy Programme: Looking Ahead to 2024

NAI looks forward to bringing on board the third in its series of campaigns under the Patients Deserve Platform in 2024 with the launch of a campaign focusing on the need to develop and resource neurology services across a number of our regional hospitals.

Addressing regional inequity in access to neurological care will form a key theme of the NAI advocacy programme in 2024 and going forward.

## IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON ACCESS TO CARE FOR PEOPLE WITH NEUROLOGICAL CONDITIONS IN IRELAND



The Neurological Alliance of Ireland, the national umbrella for over thirty neurological charities, commissioned research between August 2022 and February 2023 involving people with neurological conditions and family carers, service providers and health professionals from across Ireland. Overall, the research found evidence of a significant ongoing impact on access to neurological care services due to combination of service disruption due to COVID-19 and underinvestment pre-pandemic.

### Key Findings

- A nationwide survey of nearly 200 people with neurological conditions and family carers found that nearly 50% of the family carers surveyed reported that access to a range of essential therapies such as physiotherapy, speech and language therapy and neuropsychology, had not returned to pre COVID-19 levels, while more than half reported that access to consultant neurology and nurse specialist services had not returned to normal.
- One in 5 people with a neurological condition had found it difficult to access an appointment with a consultant neurologist over the 12 months August 2021 to August 2022, rising to one in four among family carer respondents. 14% reported difficulty in accessing all services while one in ten respondents had resorted to purchasing services on a private basis because of the challenges in accessing care.
- More than one third of respondents were very concerned that they would not be able to access essential services over the next 12 months (September 2022 to Sept 2023) while nearly one in 5 family carers feared a deterioration in their family member's neurological condition due to a lack of access to services.
- Respondents self identifying as long COVID patients reported a critical lack of access to supports with 96% unable to access neurorehabilitation services.
- Interviews with clinicians working across neurological care services highlighted the lack of investment pre pandemic as a significant factor in the ability of services to respond to the backlog post pandemic. Demand for neurorehabilitation services, for example, has increased significantly due to the combined needs of patients who were discharged early and missed out on rehabilitation during the pandemic, those who deteriorated due to lockdown and those requiring rehabilitation after long COVID.

### Recommendations

The Neurological Alliance is calling for a set of measures to specifically address the findings of this report, in line with the overall recommendations outlined in the HSE COVID-19 Recovery Plan published in 2021.

- A specific assessment and recovery plan for neurology and neurorehabilitation services to address the critical capacity issues in these services which predated the pandemic and continues to impact significantly on the ability of these services to respond post pandemic.
- Engagement with voluntary providers to address the impact of the pandemic on both existing and emerging groups of service users with neurological conditions.
- Priority resourcing of specialist supports for service users with neurological consequences from long COVID. Immediate investment should focus on the expansion of the only dedicated long COVID neurology service in Ireland to include a full multidisciplinary team and action to address the critical lack of community neurorehabilitation services by fully staffing nine community neurorehabilitation teams around the country (as promised in the 2019-2021 Implementation Framework for the National Neurorehabilitation Strategy)
- Targeted supports to address the mental health impact of the pandemic on people with neurological conditions and their families.

THE FULL REPORT IS AVAILABLE AT [WWW.NAI.IE](http://WWW.NAI.IE)

# MEMBER ENGAGEMENT AND DEVELOPING THE NETWORK

## Member Engagement in 2023 on Future Advocacy Priorities for NAI

A key focus of member engagement in 2023 involved NAI working closely with its members to identify advocacy priorities for the umbrella ahead of likely general election in late 2024/early 2025.

NAI organised a programme of engagement through October and November, carrying out a detailed survey of its members and facilitating a workshop on future advocacy priorities.

This work, together with the outcome of a Leadership engagement exercise across the four clinical programmes in neurological care and lived experience outreach, will inform the focus and content of the NAI election manifesto and pre election campaign.

## Ensuring a Voice for all its Membership

NAI is committed to an active programme of engagement with its members, providing multiple opportunities all throughout the year for members to be involved in collective advocacy, receive one to one support and information, and engage in collaborative initiatives aimed at raising awareness and influencing policy.

The many demands on members have led us to maximise the use of online communications as a way of increasing and extending our ability to stay in touch with our member organisations, our face to face advocacy and networking events provided a very welcome opportunity for members to come together in person.



Members are kept fully up to date with the work of NAI through a series of bi monthly meetings and monthly e newsletters all throughout the year





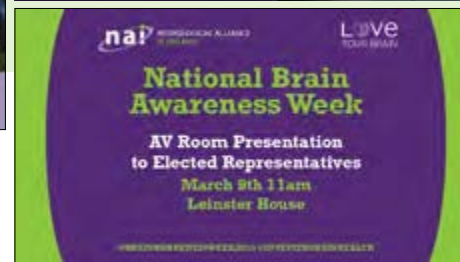
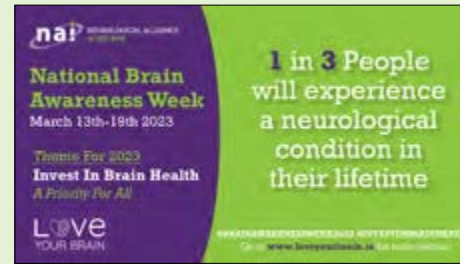
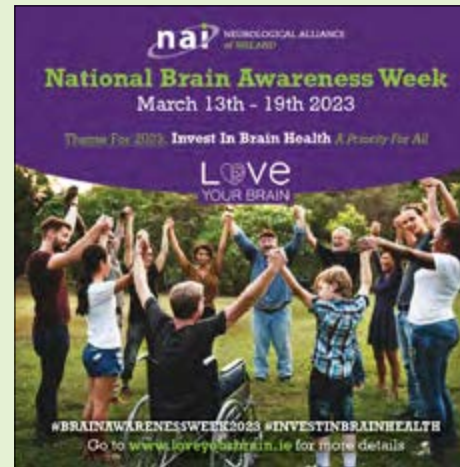
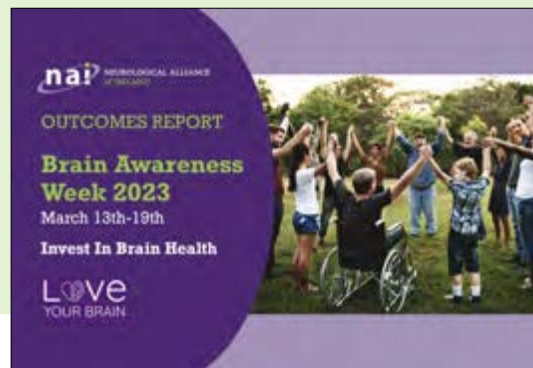
## Brain Awareness Week

Brain Awareness Week is an annual awareness campaign co-ordinated by the NAI which aims to promote greater awareness and understanding of the brain and brain conditions. The profile of the week continues to grow year on year as a dedicated awareness raising opportunity which brings the neurological community together throughout Ireland.

The breadth of the 2023 theme “Invest in Brain Health” provided a wealth of opportunity for NAI members and our wider network of Brain Awareness Week supporters across universities, schools, hospitals as well as individuals and carers to come on board.

In NAI we incorporated the theme into all our activities and messaging, producing a comprehensive Communications Pack and rolling out a dedicated social media campaign in the lead up to and during Brain Awareness Week.

NAI launched Brain Awareness Week 2023 with a free online webinar “Invest in your own Brain Health” hosted by award winning Neuroscience author Professor Sabina Brennan. We were delighted to partner with Media Planet in the development of a special press supplement on Living with Neurological Conditions and to once again feature international actor Michael Fassbender in support of the week.





## Patients Deserve Better Campaign

Twenty two NAI members signed up as Campaign Partners for the 2022/2023 Patients Deserve Better campaign for Community Neurorehabilitation Teams; availing of the opportunity to raise awareness of the work of their organisation at campaign networking events and engaging in shared collective advocacy for investment in services.

There was a strong representation from member organisations at key NAI events throughout 2023, including the NAI presentation in the AV room in March and the launch of the NAI pre budget submission in June.







## The Neuromapping Project

Through all its activities, NAI is motivated by the key aim to raise awareness of the vital importance of the voluntary sector in the provision of neurological care services and ensure that this is properly resourced and recognised within the development and implementation of policy in neurological care.

The joint Neuromapping Project, a partnership between the NAI, the HSE and the Disability Federation of Ireland, provided a vital opportunity to capture and document the range and depth of service provision across the voluntary sector for people with neurological conditions.

A total of 44 organisations took part in a detailed survey which revealed nearly one hundred unique service types across ten categories. The findings were conveyed in a series of “heat maps” which indicated the extent of service provision all across the country. The Phase 1 report, which was launched by Minister For Disability Anne Rabbitte in April 2023, captures for the first time the huge range and breath of the services provided by the voluntary sector to people with neurological conditions and their families throughout Ireland.

Following the success of the Phase 2 project, the HSE outlined its strong support to continue the collaboration. Phase 2 of the neuromapping project commenced in the second half of 2023, seeks to further understand the current service and support pathways that occur between existing and developing statutory and community services for people with neurorehabilitative needs. Phase II of the Neuromapping Project will input directly into the Community Workstream of the Neurorehabilitation Strategy, an initiative secured by NAI as one of the key aims of its advocacy programme in 2023.





# PROGRESS ON STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES DURING 2023

## ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNANCE, RISK AND SUSTAINABILITY

### Launch of NAI Strategic Plan 2023-2027

August 2023 saw the launch of the NAI five year Strategic Plan 2023-2027 in HSE headquarters in Dr Steeven's Hospital. The plan followed an extensive programme of consultation and engagement with multiple stakeholders, including lived experience representatives, NAI members, clinical leaders and funding organisations.

The engagement with lived experience representatives in particular, highlighted for NAI the importance of providing opportunities for direct engagement in the work of NAI, in particular in the design and delivery of advocacy programmes aimed at raising awareness and securing investment in services.

The plan outlines an ambitious programme of development over the five years 2023 to 2027, building on the success of the organisation in providing an expert voice on the needs and experiences of those with neurological conditions and their families.

As an umbrella organisation, the NAI believes it has a responsibility to its members to actively demonstrate its commitment to and adherence to the

highest standards of governance. The organisation achieved full compliance with the Governance Code in October 2021.

The members of the Board undertake a comprehensive commitment to ensuring ongoing strict adherence to the principles of the Governance Code year on year through an annual programme of review and refresh of existing policy and development of new policies, Board and staff training and development and actions to recruit and enhance the mix of expertise and skills available on the Board.

In 2022, the NAI successfully applied for three year funding through the Department of Rural and Community Development Scheme to Support National Organisations (SSNO). Competition for funding under the 2022-2025 funding round was high with 230 applicants and only 81 successful organisations. The NAI submitted an ambitious work programme over the next three years: focusing on strengthened community and voluntary sector engagement, research and policy and organisational development and increased representation/advocacy on neurodisability issues.

The financial sustainability of the organisation continued to be a concern

and focus for the work of the Board, together with the staff team, throughout 2023. In addition to complying with the requirements of its work programme under SSNO, NAI also succeeded in expanding its funding base in 2023, securing funding for a full time Research Officer as part of the Joint Neuromapping Project and bringing on board new Industry Partners for 2024.



# OVERVIEW OF NAI GOVERNANCE

- In 2021 our directors signed off on our compliance with the Governance Code and agreed a mechanism for review on an annual basis.
- Our Board of Directors meets six times a year to oversee all aspects of our activities and finances
- The Officers of the NAI meet bi-monthly to oversee key aspects of governance including audit, risk management and compliance
- We undergo an independent financial audit on an annual basis and our financial statements are available on our website
- In addition to our statutory Directors report we produce an in-depth annual report, reviewing our achievements against our strategic goals
- Our work is guided by the NAI Strategic Plan 2023-2027, a detailed strategic planning process takes place every three years
- We are compliant with all relevant legislation including the Charities Act (2009), the Companies Act (2014), Lobbying Act (2015) employment, equality and data protection legislation. We have a range of policies and procedures in place for our day-to-day operations as well as a structure for regular staff training and updates in relation to these policies
- We provide detailed reports to our funders and work to maintain an organisational culture of transparency and compliance in all areas of our activities

# NAI FINANCIAL REPORT 2023

## Income and Expenditure for Year Ended 31st December 2023

	2023	2022
	€	€
Income	213,209	163,477
Expenditure	(184,826)	(154,648)
Surplus for the Financial Year	28,283	8,829
Total Comprehensive Income	28,283	8,829

## Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2023

	2023	2022
	€	
FIXED ASSETS		
Tangible Assets	645	785
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors	1,405	399
Cash at bank in hand	160,809	156,816
	<u>162,214</u>	<u>157,215</u>
CREDITORS (amount falling due within one year)	<u>33,366</u>	<u>(56,890)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS	<u>128,848</u>	<u>100,325</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>129,493</u>	<u>101,110</u>
CAPITAL & RESERVES	<u>129,493</u>	<u>101,110</u>
MEMBERS FUNDS	<u>129,493</u>	<u>101,110</u>

*NAI is supported by a multi-annual funding programme through the Scheme to Support National Organisations, provided by the Department of Rural and Community Development and administered by Pobal. This scheme covers the period July 2022 to June 2025.*

*Funding from other sources, including industry sponsorship and membership fees, are clearly outlined in our audited financial statements.*

# OUR PEOPLE

## Board of Directors

(as at 31st December 2023)

Chair: Pascal Derrien

Vice Chair: For appointment Jan 2024

Treasurer: Grainne Fogarty

Emma Rogan: Lived Experience Representative

Gillian Murphy: Enable Ireland

Catherine Lacey: Acquired Brain Injury Ireland

Professor Niall Pender: Headway Ireland

Tara Smith: Epilepsy Ireland

Alison Cotter: MS Ireland

## NAI Staff

**Magdalen Rogers:**  
NAI Executive Director

**Sinead Bradley:**  
Communications Officer



## Acknowledgment of Funders and Collaborative Partners

We would like to thank our funders, with whose support we were able to deliver a wide range of activities and initiatives in 2023





# 2023 A BUSY YEAR FOR OUR MEMBERS





ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY

# Bake for Brain Injury

March 13<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> 2023

LET'S RAISE SOME DOUGH

#BakeforBrainInjury

www.acquiredbraininjury.ie

MS Explored! THE PODCAST

Episode 1

Newly Diagnosed with MS: Meeting with a Neurologist

MS Ireland NOVARTIS October 2021 | IL1918

Survivors Ireland

Celebrating 30 years



THE SEIZURE

KEEP THEM SAFE

STAY WITH THEM

MENINGITIS & SEPTICAEMIA

ACT for Meningitis

TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS

DON'T WAIT FOR A RASH!

The signs and symptoms of Meningitis can appear in any order SOME MAY NOT APPEAR AT ALL

Septicaemia	Meningitis
<p><b>BABIES &amp; TODDLERS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fale / Blotchy Skin / Turn Blue</li> <li>Sleepy / Refusing to Feed</li> <li>Irritable</li> <li>Spots / Rash</li> <li>Limp / Floppy Child</li> <li>High Pitch Crying</li> <li>Cold Hands / Feet</li> <li>Bulging Soft Spot on Head</li> <li>High Temperature</li> <li>Rapid Breathing / Moaning</li> </ul>	<p><b>CHILDREN &amp; ADULTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fever / Cold hands and feet</li> <li>Headache</li> <li>Difficulty to Wake</li> <li>Confusion / Irritable / Aggression</li> <li>Severe Muscle Pain</li> <li>Stomach Cramps / Diarrhoea</li> <li>Spots / Rash / Blotchy Skin</li> <li>Headache</li> <li>Stiff Neck</li> <li>Double of Bright Lights</li> <li>Seizures / Uncontrolled Movements</li> <li>Difficulty Breathing</li> </ul>

Meningitis does not always produce a rash. If it does appear it will not fade under pressure.

- Press the side of a glass firmly against the skin
- Spots/Rash may fade at first, keep checking
- Some are more difficult to see on darker skin, check paler areas in case

If you suspect Meningitis, seek medical help IMMEDIATELY.

Parkinson's Association of Ireland

Saturday April 15<sup>th</sup> 14:00h - 17:30h

## Pep in Your Step 4 PARKINSON'S

AGENDA

- 14:00 - 14:15 Meeting Chair: An Aníolín Ó Súilleabháin
- 14:15 - 14:30 Welcome Opening Address: Dr. Máire O'Sullivan
- 14:30 - 14:45 Exercise & PE - Recent Research & Updates: Dr. Eimear O'Sullivan
- 14:45 - 15:00 Parkinson's Update - Optimising Therapies for Parkinson's Disease: Prof. David Burn
- 15:00 - 15:15 Update of Exercise Research: Dr. Eimear O'Sullivan
- 15:15 - 15:30 Social & Choir: Meet to Enhance Your Communication With Parkinson's Disease & Meet MTCs Help: Dr. Eimear O'Sullivan
- 15:30 - 15:45 Parkinson's & Life: Creating Positive Stability of Life with Parkinson's: Dr. Eimear O'Sullivan
- 15:45 - 16:00 Our Health - Our Gut Microbiome and it's Importance: Dr. Eimear O'Sullivan
- 16:00 - 16:15 Q&A

Go to <https://parkinsons.ie/event/2023/pep-in-your-step> to attend the virtual conference

PARKIE: Parkinson's community Awareness HR<sup>®</sup>

of Research; emphasis on Knowledge and Information Exchange

What is the PARKIE Conference?

- A conference for people with Parkinson's in Ireland to learn about Parkinson's Research that interests them.
- Speakers to represent a mixture of clinicians, researchers, and people with Parkinson's

When and where is the conference?

- October 7<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 AM - 3:30 PM
- Regent House, Trinity College Dublin
- Cost: Free
- Registration available in link above

Related Topics:

- Exercise
- Clinical Trials
- Sleep
- Deep Brain Stimulation

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May 4<sup>th</sup> 2023

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