

Information Governance  
Department  
14 Lister Street  
University Hospital Crosshouse  
Crosshouse  
Kilmarnock KA2 0BB



Gillian Mathewson  
Founder and Director  
PANS PANDAS Scotland  
gillian.mathewson@panspandas.scot

|              |                        |
|--------------|------------------------|
| Date         | 08 December 2025       |
| Your Ref     |                        |
| Our Ref      | 0943-2025              |
| Enquiries to | Freedom of Information |
| Extension    | 26112                  |
| Direct line  | 01563 826112           |
| E-mail       | foi@aapct.scot.nhs.uk  |

Dear Ms Mathewson,

## **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002**

Thank you for your request for the provision of the following information.

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 regarding NHS Ayrshire and Arran's response to recent communications about Paediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome (PANS) and Paediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal infections (PANDAS).

In May 2025, the PANS PANDAS Steering Group (PPSG) wrote to the chief executive of all NHS boards in Scotland to inform them of the ongoing work in the development of clinical guidelines for PANS and PANDAS.

### **Actions Taken in Response to the PPSG Letter**

1. What steps has NHS Ayrshire and Arran taken in response to the requests outlined in the PPSG letter, specifically:
  - a) Distribution of information about PANS and PANDAS to GP practices.
  - b) Circulation of this information to paediatric units.

### **Recognition of Updated Guidance**

2. Does NHS Ayrshire and Arran recognise that the 2023 PANS PANDAS Steering Group Statement supersedes the 2021 BPNA Consensus Statement?

### **Clinical pathways and referral options.**

3. The Cabinet Secretary stated that there are multidisciplinary services for PANS and PANDAS currently available in Glasgow and Edinburgh. In the absence of such teams in NHS Ayrshire and Arran, what steps are taken when a patient presents with symptoms which may be indicative of PANS or PANDAS?

Response:

We have no record of having received this letter, therefore we do not hold the information requested. As we do not hold this information it is classed as an exclusion under section 17 (1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

We can advise for question 3 - We would discuss all such cases with Glasgow Paediatrics colleagues.

I trust this response is helpful. However, under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 if you are dissatisfied with our response you are entitled to request a review. A request for a review must be made in writing to Mrs Marie Lynch, Head of Information Governance and Data Protection Officer, NHS Ayrshire & Arran, 14 Lister Street, University Hospital Crosshouse, Kilmarnock, KA2 0BB or email [DataProtectionOfficer@aapct.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:DataProtectionOfficer@aapct.scot.nhs.uk), no later than 40 working days from 09 December 2025. You must provide your full name, an address for correspondence, details of your original request and say why you would like a review.

If our decision is unchanged following a review and you remain dissatisfied with this, you then have the right to make a formal appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner at <https://www.foi.scot/appeal>

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further advice or assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Tara Palmer LLM  
Freedom of Information Officer  
NHS Ayrshire & Arran