

Private & Confidential

Gillian Mathewson

Date: DRAFT DL – 03/12/2025

Your Ref:

Our Ref: 762-2025

Enquiries to: Information Governance Office

Extension: 3031

Reception: 01851 708031

E-mail: wi.foi-requests@nhs.scot

Dear Requestor,

Request for information under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

Further to your recent enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act, received on 04/11/2025 please find our response below. In your request you asked for the following information:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 regarding NHS Western Isles' 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

- Q1 What steps has NHS Western Isles taken in response to the requests outlined in the PPSG letter, specifically:
- Distribution of information about PANS and PANDAS to GP practices.
The information was passed to GP Practice Managers for distribution to GPs.
 - Circulation of this information to paediatric units.
NHS Western Isles does not have a dedicated Paediatric Unit, however, it was circulated to our two locum Paediatric consultants.
- Q2 Does NHS Western Isles recognise that the 2023 PANS PANDAS Steering Group Statement supersedes the 2021 BPNA Consensus Statement?
Yes

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

Oifisean Bòrd na Slàinte
37 Mol a Deas, Steòrnabhagh, Eileanan Siar, HS1 2BB

Headquarters
37 South Beach, Stornoway, Western Isles, HS1 2BB

Cathraiche: G. NicCannon
Ceannard an Gníomh: G. MacSheumais

Chair: Gillian McCannon
Chief Executive: Gordon Jamieson



Western Isles NHS Board is the common name of Western Isles Health Board

“The best at what we do”

NHS Western Isles will work actively with patients, the public and our partners to improve our community's health and wellbeing, to tackle inequalities, and to deliver high quality, reliable clinical services.

Q3 NHS Western Isles, what steps are taken when a patient presents with symptoms which may be indicative of PANS or PANDAS?

In the event that a child presented with Paediatric Acute onset Neuropsychiatric syndrome of Paediatric Autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with Streptococcal infection[PANs and PANDAS], early involvement of the local CAMHS team and the NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde neurology team would be initiated promptly. Differential diagnosis would include SLE, NMDA receptor autoimmune disease etc and as such initial investigations would be initiated locally.

If you are dissatisfied with the way NHS Western Isles has dealt with your request, you have a right to request a review of our actions and decisions in relation to your request within 40 working days and we will respond within 20 working days of its receipt. For this review you should write to Information Governance Manager, NHS Western Isles, 37 South Beach, Stornoway Isle of Lewis, HS1 2BB stating clearly why you wish a review to be carried out.

If, following the outcome of a request for review, you are still dissatisfied you have the right to make an application for a decision by the Scottish Information Commissioner under section 47(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 within 6 months of receiving the response to review letter. The Commissioner can be contacted at Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS or by telephone on 01334 464610 or via the website www.foi.scot/appeal.

If you have any further queries regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Carol Macdonald
Information Governance Manager