

Annual Report 2023





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Welcome to the ALLIANCE's annual report for 2023. This year has seen the organisation continue to grow, extend our impact and achieve several milestones, whilst continuing our diverse range of programmes and activities across health and social care.

In 2023, we published our first strategic plan, "**Strengthening Our Collective Voice**", setting out our ambitions for the next five years. The strategic plan was developed with extensive input from members and partners, and we are extremely grateful for their support. We hope you will agree that our strategic plan represents an excellent roadmap to 2028.



We saw the gradual return of in-person events and the successful return of the **Concert for Caring**; a celebratory evening with Calum Beattie, Altered Images and Des Clarke, entertaining an audience of 1,750 coming together in a celebration of the unifying experience of caring. Our Annual Conference had an in-person element for the first time since 2019 and charted the way forward for health and social care in Scotland.



We passed a significant milestone as we welcomed our 3,500 member. To reflect the evolution of its role, the ALLIANCE Carer Voices programme has adopted the name **Person Centred Voices** and has established new partnerships and reached over 17,000 people working across health and social care. The **ALISS programme** has also evolved significantly through the 'Democratising Access to Community Services' project offering both an improved experience and increased data to help people find sources of wellbeing support in their community, and we expanded our **Community Links Worker programme** into food banks.



We continued to ensure that the voices of people with lived experience and our members are heard and acted upon by decision-makers. Some of our successes included our recommendations on Mental Health Standards adopted by the Scottish Government, our extensive evidence of the impact of the pandemic being influential on the Scottish COVID-19 Inquiry and preventing cuts to the Glasgow Links Worker Programme. We continue to expand our portfolio of lived experience networks to enable people's experiences to be heard by policy makers, covering **heart disease**, mental health, **Long Covid** and many more.



Our programmes delivered diverse activities that are valued by members and stakeholders alike. Many of you will have engaged with programmes including **Humans of Scotland**, ALLIANCE Live, IFIC, **Scottish Sensory Hub**, **Integration**, **Women's Health Plan**, **Children and Young People's programme** and the Links Worker Programmes all of which continue to contribute to driving forward improvements in health and social care.

We continued to make a substantial contribution to the wellbeing economy contributing directly to Scotland's national outcomes and generating health and wellbeing benefits arising from better health and social care outcomes, jobs and volunteering opportunities.

The ALLIANCE was sad to see the departure of board members Emma Scott and Vice Chair Mairi O'Keefe and are very grateful for all their contributions. We were delighted to welcome new board members Jim Hume in May and Jim Guyan in December. Ruth Dorman, Chair at the ALLIANCE, extends gratitude to previous and existing directors, our Chief Officers Sara and Susan, and the rest of the team and volunteers for their commitment, energy and diligence in working with our members towards the organisations achievements this past year.

We hope that you enjoy reading about our work in 2023 and we look forward to collaborating with you in 2024.



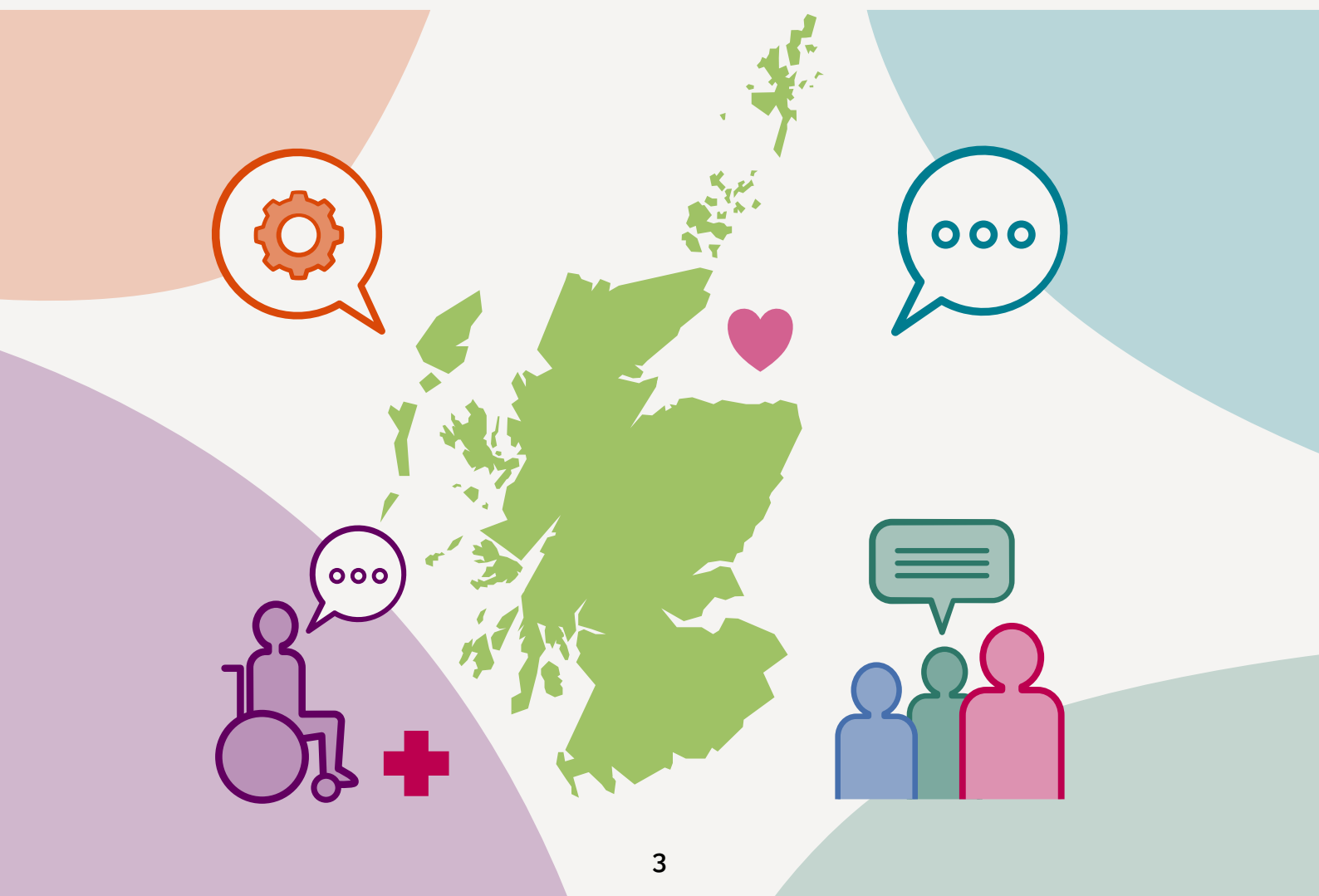
Ruth Dorman
Chair, the ALLIANCE



Sara Redmond
Chief Officer, Development



Susan Young
Chief Officer, Operations



Membership

2023 saw the number of ALLIANCE members rise to over 3,500, with 295 new members joining our community this year. Our members have engaged in a wide range of training events, including Hate Crime and Discrimination training delivered by West of Scotland Regional Equality Council (WSREC) and Inclusive communication training with Communication Inclusion People.

We have offered engagement events including a focus group on the Managing Medicines app host by Digital Health and Inclusion Scotland (DHI Scotland) and two engagement sessions with the Scottish Government’s Care and Wellbeing Portfolio team.



new members this year

including **31** new organisations

and over **260** individual and professional members



ALLIANCE *Live*

Through a collection of video and podcast content, **ALLIANCE Live** captured impact and innovation taking place across the health and social care. It collaborated with voices of lived experience to present a diverse range of stories and opinions. For example, our lived experience series shared stories of people using digital tools to improve their health and wellbeing and our Project Insight series highlighted the important work of some of our Self Management funded projects.

63

Videos



4

**EQUALLY
VALUED**

podcasts

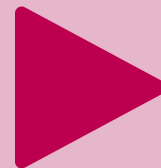
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Hybrid Annual Conference



5,829

Total YouTube views



In 2023, **ALLIANCE Live** worked with:

19

**third sector
organisations**

25

**individuals with
lived experience**

9

**health
professionals**

2

**elected
members**

Digital

ALISS (A Local Information System for Scotland)

Through the “Democratising Access to Community Services” (DACs) project, the **ALISS Programme** delivered a range of technical developments to ALISS to improve user experience, increase the number of access points – including voice activation and social prescribing – and the quality and quantity of data available on ALISS.

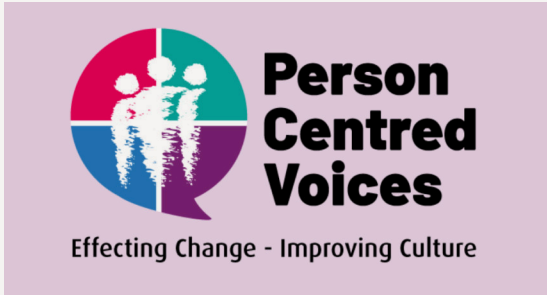
Digital Health and Social Care

The **Digital Health and Social Care Team** extended its reach via several platforms and activities including the launch of Discover Digital’s workshops and roadshows and the delivery of presentations at local and national events on the Human Rights Principles in Digital Health and Social Care. Additionally, the **Digital Citizen Panel** has increased in numbers and diversity and led the ALLIANCE's celebrations of Black History Month.



Health and Social Care Integration

Person Centred Voices



The Carer Voices project underwent a transformation, adopting the name **Person Centred Voices** to better reflect its expanding engagement and evolution over the years. We hosted our third Concert for Caring, a celebration recognising the invaluable contributions of unpaid carers.

Children and Young People Programme

The **Children and Young People Programme** continued to raise awareness of how Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC) can support disabled children and those living with long term conditions, their parents and carers and ensure they are involved in ongoing developments in the children's policy agenda in Scotland.



Community Links Worker Programme

The **Community Links Work Programme** provided an essential service to thousands of people across Scotland and GP practices. The Programme generated £18.2 million in wellbeing benefits for communities in Glasgow and West Dunbartonshire; £9 benefit for everyone £1 of public funding invested.



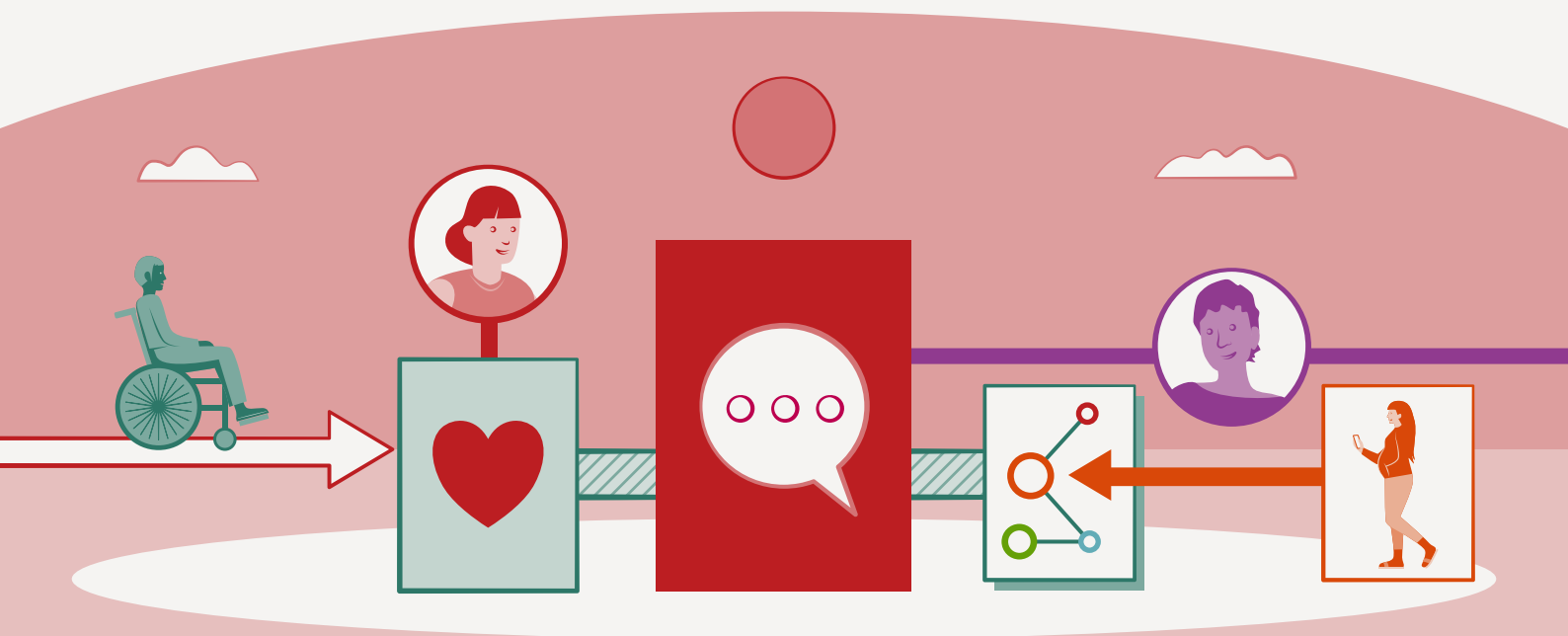
Health and Social Care Academy

In 2023, **The Health and Social Care Academy** launched the new Five Ambitions for Health and Care which call for long term, meaningful and sustainable change within the health and social care sector. The Academy Programme advocated for person centred policy through its research into pregnancy and maternity services during the COVID-19 pandemic and commissioned research on the right to health.



Women's Health Plan

Our **Women's Health programme** continued to support the Scottish Government's Women's Health Plan. Through lived experience input, webinars, community events, and the creation of a range of resources, the programme promoted a positive dialogue on women's health and facilitated access to supportive information.



Humans of Scotland



Humans of Scotland shared stories about menopause, women's healthcare, and unpaid care to showcase the experiences of our members. We partnered with ALLIANCE projects and member organisations for projects which celebrate the lives of people living in Scotland.

Lived Experience

The ALLIANCE continued to support a variety of lived experience networks to ensure that people are at the centre, and to amplify the voice of lived experience and enact lasting social change across policy, practice and service design:

Community of Practice
- Lived Experience

Digital Citizens Panel

Diverse Experiences
Advisory Panel (DEAP)

Heart Disease
Network

IJB Lived Experience
Representative Network

Respiratory Conditions
Network

Scotland Reducing
Gambling Harm

Self Management
Network Scotland

Long Covid Lived
Experience Network

Partnerships

Engagement and Partnerships in Scotland

We achieved significant milestones, with our **key recommendations** on Mental Health Standards adopted by the Scottish Government. We engaged with MSPs to ensure the voices of women affected by transvaginal mesh were heard. We progressed our work with the National Collaborative project; launched the draft outline of a Charter of Rights for People Affected by Substance Use; and championed a human rights-based approach to substance use policy in Scotland.



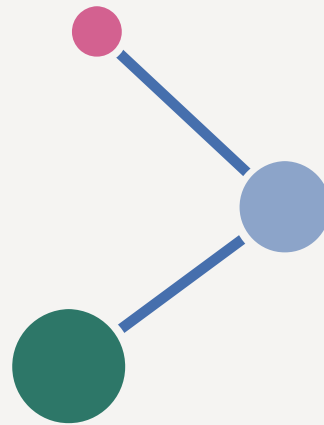
Engagement and Partnerships in Europe

We remain committed to championing the voice of **Scotland's third sector** in Europe, were actively represented on the UK Domestic Advisory Group (DAG) and established the Scottish Advisory Forum on Europe. Our aim is to advise and ensure that the voice of civil society is reflected in post-Brexit arrangements. Additionally, our ongoing support for EUPATI Scotland highlights our determination to promote the voices of patients, carers, and the public at the core of medicines research and development in the EU.



Integration, Engagement and Lived Experience Hub

The ALLIANCE's Integration team continued to build strong relationships across the third sector and health and social care, whilst championing the third sector's valuable contribution to health and social care integration. The Connected Communities case study series highlights examples of good practice within health and social care integration. We have also continued to develop our IJB Representative Network, which brings together lived experience representatives from IJBs across Scotland.



Macmillan Lived Experience Programme

Our Macmillan-funded Lived Experience Programme worked to amplify the voices of people affected by cancer concluded in December 2023. We shared insights from our Peer Evaluator project and celebrated the impact of people affected by cancer who influenced and contributed to the national Transforming Cancer Care programme.

**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**

Nurturing and Weaving Networks

COPE Scotland, ALLIANCE and the Health Foundation's Q Community have maintained their **partnership**. They have worked together to enhance nurturing and weaving networks and to connect with colleagues working in health and social care across the UK and Ireland and beyond, to explore the challenges to networks and for those in a network leadership role.



Q is led by the Health Foundation and supported by partners across the UK and Ireland

Scottish Ballet Health

The Scottish Ballet and the ALLIANCE creative social prescribing **partnership project** is growing. We continued to explore and embed referral pathways and awareness of neurological dance health programmes and dance health classes including bedside ballet across health, care and community settings.



IFIC Scotland

We enhanced our strategic partnership with the University of the West of Scotland (UWS) and **IFIC Scotland** - a country hub for the International Foundation for Integrated Care (IFIC). IFIC Scotland convenes a national network of partners that support the shared mission of co-creating a healthier future with individuals and communities by developing courageous and compassionate leaders and practitioners with the knowledge, skills and confidence to design, deliver and evaluate personcentered integrated care.



International Foundation
for Integrated Care
IFIC Scotland

Policy and Public Affairs

Policy

The **Policy team** has worked to raise members' views and influence transformative change in social care, human rights, finance, COVID-19 and much more besides. 22 consultation responses and briefings were undertaken with and a comprehensive **response to the consultation on a Scottish Human Rights Bill**.



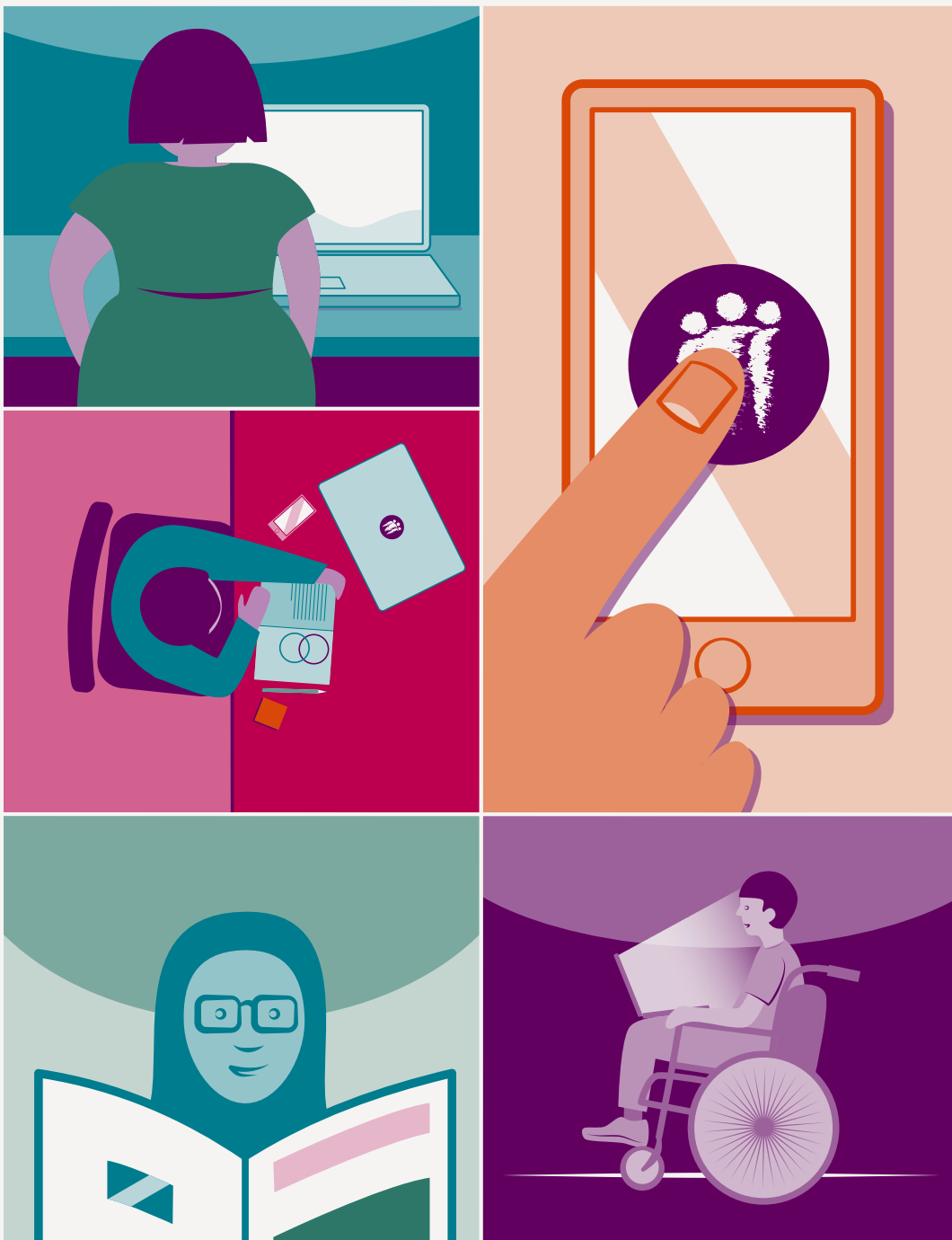
Scottish Sensory Hub

The **Scottish Sensory Hub** organised the national See Hear Leads Network, facilitated the CPG on Deafness, contributed to the Independent Review of Audiology, and carried out a range of research, including: the efficacy of lipreading classes, mapping sensory awareness training, sensory care in care homes, and consulting on the See Hear Strategy.

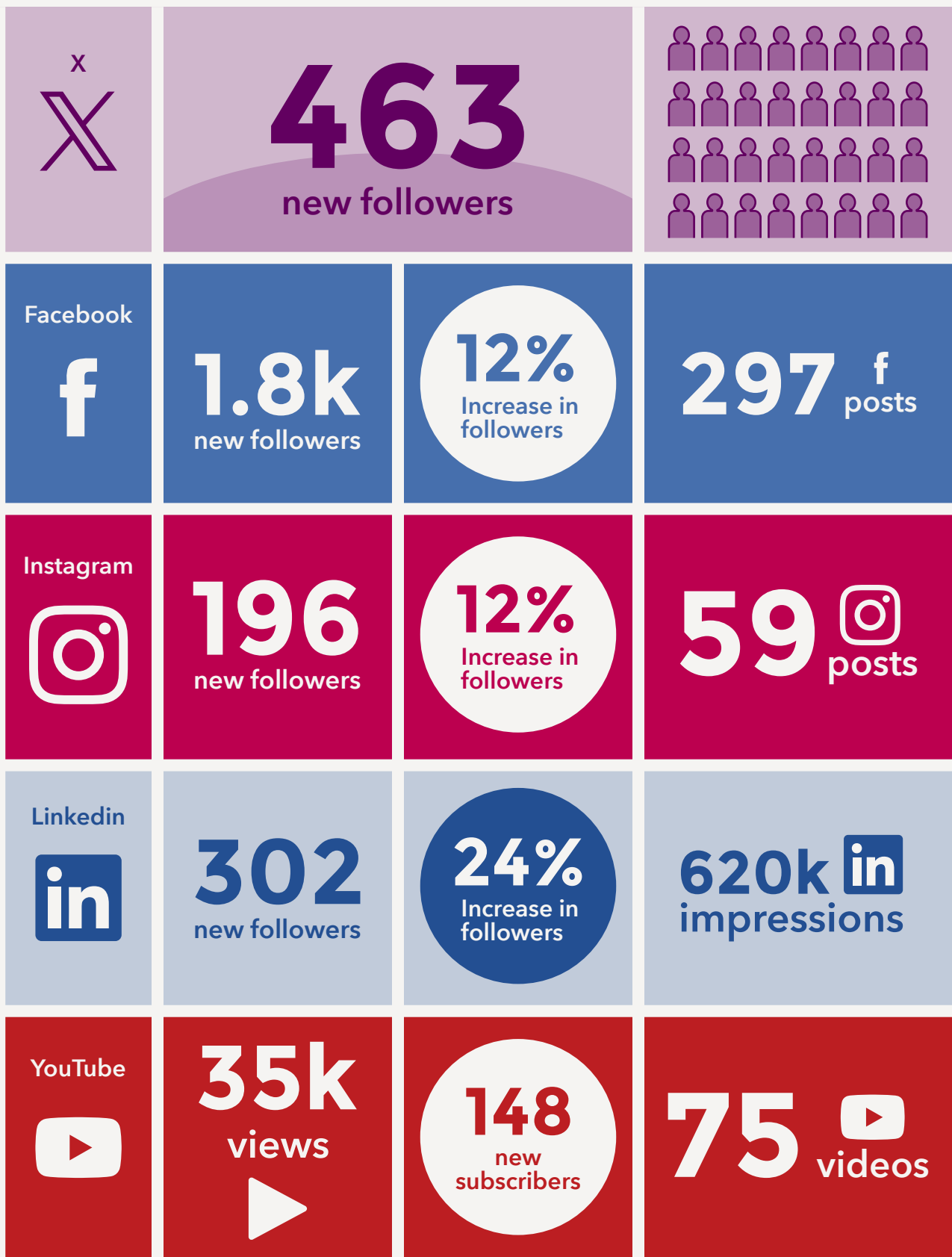


Self Management

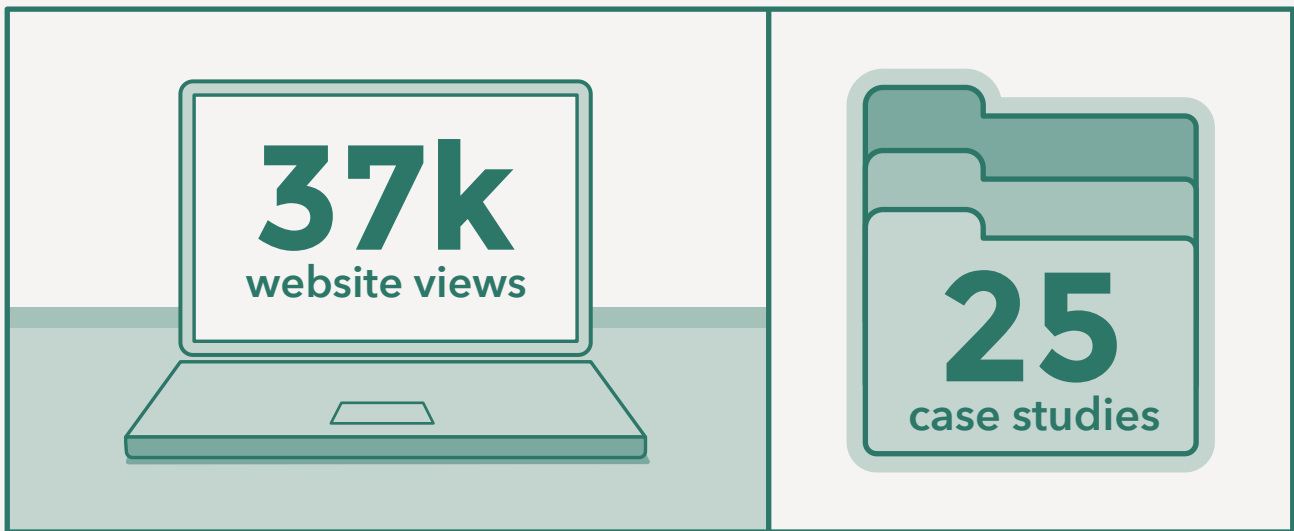
The Self Management team was busy this year with the Self Management Fund which oversaw 34 new projects and advanced self management initiatives across Scotland. The team delivered a series of Self Management Reflective Practice sessions and raised awareness of self management projects throughout Scotland culminating in Self Management Week, which featured diverse sessions, including an awards ceremony, and contributed to the growth of the Self Management Network Scotland.



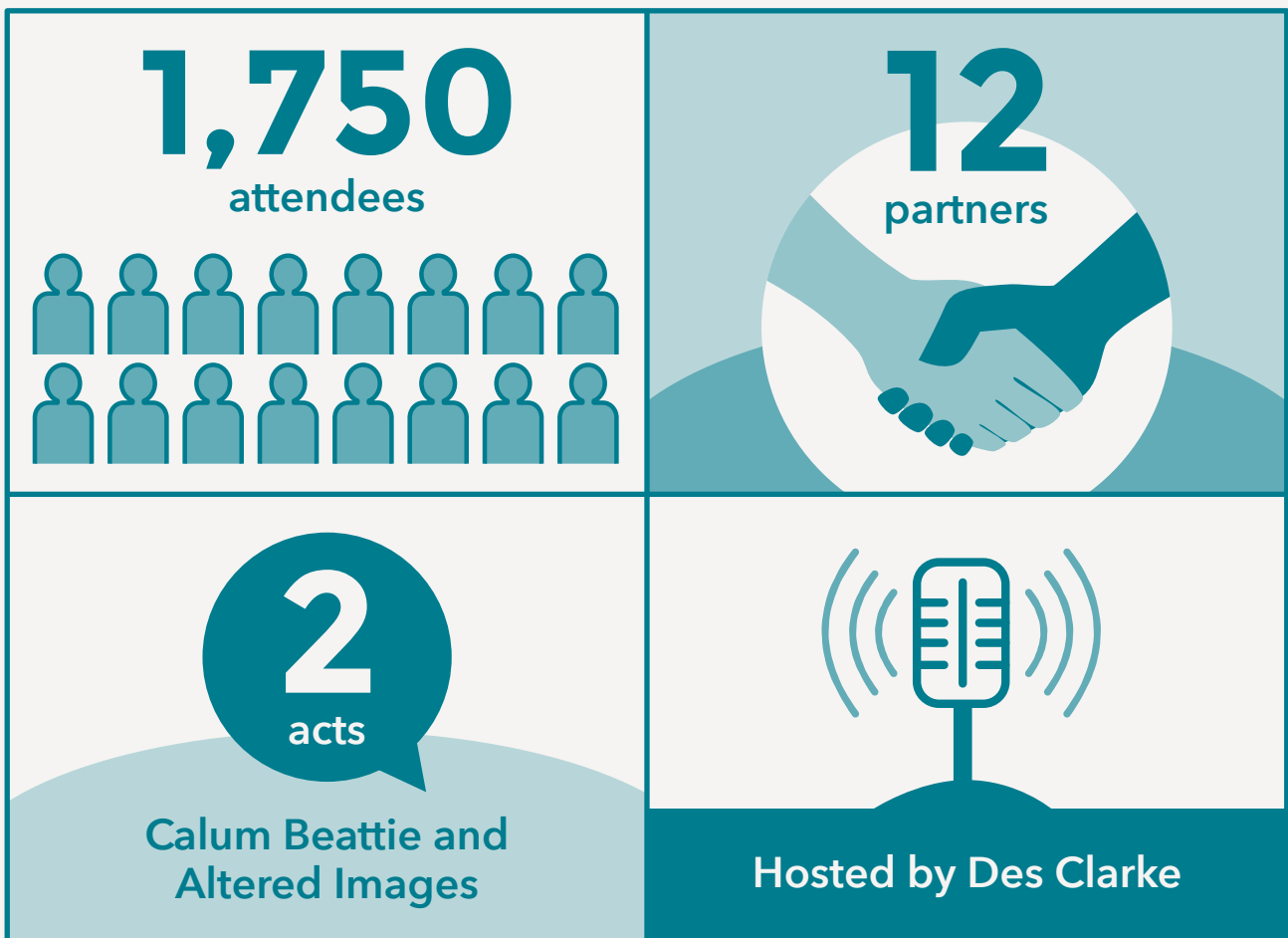
Communication statistics



News and views



ALLIANCE Concert for Caring



People at the Centre: ALLIANCE Digital Gathering



Annual Conference 2023: Strengthening Our Collective Voice



Feedback



Conversations about tackling inequalities were excellent – particularly within the context of unpaid carers.

- ALLIANCE delegate



Very informative and a good learning experience. Great awareness raising and networking opportunity.

- ALLIANCE delegate



Read more about our 2023 Annual Conference [in our report](#).

Annual financial accounts

The Health and Social Care Alliance. Headline figures for the year ended 30 June 2023

Statement of Financial Activities	2023	Restated 2022
Incoming Resources	£	£
Grant to support operational costs	5,175,268	4,922,222
Membership events and conference income	3,174,827	3,062,132
Investment income	152,578	29,053
Other income	5,197	32,359
	8,507,870	8,045,766
Resources Expended	£	£
Costs of generating voluntary income	765,928	696,734
Charitable activities costs	5,975,907	4,126,774
Governance costs	232,676	200,466
Support costs	394,451	330,200
	7,368,962	5,354,174

	2023	Restated 2022
	£	£
Net incoming/(outgoing) Resources	1,138,908	2,691,592
Balance brought forward	12,291,852	9,600,260
	<hr/>	
Balance carried forward	13,430,760	12,291,852
	<hr/>	
Allocated:-	£	£
Unrestricted funds	9,821,849	8,942,737
Restricted funds	3,608,911	3,349,115
	<hr/>	
	13,430,760	12,291,852
	<hr/>	

	2023	Restated 2022
Balance sheet	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	11,425	2,398
Investments	1	1
Current assets	14,687,880	13,919,537
Creditors, falling due in less than one year	(1,268,546)	(1,630,084)
Net assets	13,430,760	12,291,852
Represented by	£	£
Unrestricted funds	9,821,849	8,942,737
Restricted funds	3,608,911	3,349,115
	13,430,760	12,291,852

About the ALLIANCE

The Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE) is the national third sector intermediary for a range of health and social care organisations. We have a growing membership of over 3,500 national and local third sector organisations, associates in the statutory and private sectors, disabled people, people living with long term conditions and unpaid carers. Many NHS Boards, Health and Social Care Partnerships, Medical Practices, Third Sector Interfaces, Libraries and Access Panels are also members.

The ALLIANCE is a strategic partner of the Scottish Government and has close working relationships, several of which are underpinned by Memorandum of Understanding; with many national NHS Boards, academic institutions and key organisations spanning health, social care, housing and digital technology.

Our vision is for a Scotland where people of all ages who are disabled or living with long term conditions, and unpaid carers, have a strong voice and enjoy their right to live well, as equal and active citizens, free from discrimination, with support and services that put them at the centre.

The ALLIANCE has three main aims:

- Ensure disabled people, people with long term conditions and unpaid carers voices, expertise and rights drive policy and sit at the heart of design, delivery and improvement of support and services.
- Support transformational change that works with individual and community assets, helping people to live well, supporting human rights, self management, co-production and independent living.
- Champion and support the third sector as a vital strategic and delivery partner, and foster cross-sector understanding and partnership.



ALLIANCE
HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
ALLIANCE SCOTLAND
people at the centre



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www.alliance-scotland.org.uk

Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE)

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