

July 2021

Al-Anon Family Groups UK & Eire
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INFORMATION LETTER No: 76

GROUP REPRESENTATIVES: THIS LETTER GIVES MEMBERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE WORK YOUR TRUSTED SERVANTS ON THE GENERAL SERVICE BOARD DO ON THEIR BEHALF, SO PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO READ IT IN FULL TO YOUR GROUPS.

Dear Members,

I would like to update you with what happened at the most recent General Service Board (GSB) meeting held virtually on Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th June 2021. All Trustees were in attendance.

This letter and other information will be circulated directly to the Area Delegates and to members who have signed up for the free GSO eNewsletter. Simply visit the Al-Anon website www.al-anonuk.org.uk and sign up to the GSO eNewsletter via the members' area.

Reports. The Annual Report of the Treasurer and the Annual Accounts were received and approved for inclusion in the Conference Brochure. Interim Reports from the Standing Committee Chairmen (Editorial, Conference, GSB Nominating Committee, PI and TEAM Events Committee), Chairman of the Executive Committee and the Regional Trustees were received discussed and approved.

Finances. The Treasurer updated the Board on the current financial situation. She reported that members continue to respond very positively to the Treasurer's Newsletters circulated to the membership. Gift Aid donations maintained their high level in the first quarter of the current financial year. The donations page on the website has been updated to prompt members to complete the required Gift Aid Donation form when they first Gift Aid. Due to continued restrictions in place because of the pandemic, literature sales remain the same reduced level as last year.

Public Information (PI). The Chairman of the PI Committee updated the Board on the current PI Campaign and reported that preparations have commenced for a 2023 Campaign.

Eire. The Regional Trustee updated the Board on the progress of the legal situation in Eire. The draft accounts for Al-Anon Family Groups Company Limited by Guarantee (CLG) were agreed subject to minor amendments.

Conference. It was agreed that due to continued restrictions the UK & Eire Service Conference will be held from Friday 10th to Sunday 12th September virtually via Zoom. The Conference Agenda was agreed by the Board. Information will be sent to all Area Delegates by the Conference Committee. The theme is "Evolving Through Change". There will be costs involved to run a virtual Conference and technical assistance will be required to ensure the smooth running of Conference. The equalised fee for 2021 is £446. Those Areas who paid the full Conference fee last year will only be required to pay £15.

Meetings. Some Groups returning to face to face meetings are limited on numbers allowed in the venue due to restrictions remaining in place. Please refer to the 'Important Considerations' document and the 'Welcoming Newcomers?' flyer on the website to set out a plan for the attendance of newcomers.

GSO. It was reported that there was a 54% return of Annual Record Check Forms for 2020. This is down on previous years due to the pandemic and the difficulty in getting forms signed and information back to GSO. The General Secretary reported on her attendance at the World Service Conference (WSC) in April. The Conference was held virtually via Zoom and a full report will be given at the UK & Eire Service Conference in September. A motion to allow electronic meetings to register with different Structures other than WSO was passed at the WSC and this will be

discussed further at the UK & Eire Service Conference.

Helpline. As a result of the pandemic calls to the Helpline continue to increase. GSO needs more volunteers for the Helpline and eResponders to answer distress emails. For further information email enquiries@al-anonuk.org.uk.

Service Roles. The Board discussed the lack of volunteers coming forward to join Standing Committees. This will be discussed with the Delegates at Conference in September.

AA 75th anniversary. The Convention to celebrate the 75th anniversary of AA with Al-Anon participation will be held at the Leeds Direct Arena on 10th-12th June 2022. For a limited period of time there is a reduced registration fee of £25. For more information and to register visit <https://www.aa75.co.uk/registration/>.

Trustee Vacancies: Nominations for the following Trustee positions were discussed and will be presented at Conference in September for traditional approval:

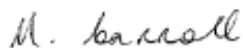
- Regional Trustee England South & East (for one-year term)
- Regional Trustee Ireland North (three-year term)
- Regional Trustee England West & South Wales (three-year term)
- Regional Trustee England North & North Wales (two-year term)
- Regional Trustee Eire (two-year term)
- Chairman Executive Committee/Vice chairman GSB (three-year term)
- Treasurer, Chairman Finance Sub Group (two-year term)

The following are the Trustee vacancies for 2023:

- Regional Trustee England South & East (three-year term)
- Regional Trustee Scotland (three-year term)
- Chairman, Conference Committee
- Chairman, Editorial Committee
- Chairman, Public Information Committee? (one-year term)

The closing date for receipt of applications at GSO for all the above is 14th May 2022.

Yours in fellowship



Nuala Carroll
Chairman
General Service Board