



October 2022

Al-Anon Family Groups UK & Eire
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INFORMATION LETTER No: 80

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 at Hinsley Hall, Leeds on Thursday 22nd, Friday 23rd and Sunday 25th September. 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 to ensure you have access to the most up to date information from GSO.

The GSB approved the appointment of Katherine Lanham as Chairperson of the Board, effective January 2023 for a three-year period.

Reports. Interim Reports from the Chairpersons of Standing Committees (Editorial, Conference, GSB Nominating Committee and TEAM Events Committee), Chairperson of the Executive Committee and the Regional Trustees were received, discussed and approved.

Finances. The Board received the Treasurer's Interim Report and reviewed management accounts for the first quarter of the 2022-23 financial year. The Treasurer reported that donations are not back to pre-pandemic levels. However, Gift Aid donations remain higher than pre-pandemic levels as UK members continue to Gift Aid their donations.

The Treasurer presented an amended budget for the year 2022-23 and the projected budget for the year 2023-24. The budgets are presented at Conference for approval. The Treasurer's newsletter containing further information will be circulated to the membership in due course.

Eire. Following the closure of the Dublin Information Service the Eire Helpline has become the responsibility of Al-Anon Family Groups CLG (AFG CLG) with the administration being carried out by GSO.

After consultation, Area Delegates and District Representatives in Ireland proposed and agreed changes to Area and Regional boundaries which was approved by the GSB. This led to a change of name for the two Regions as follows:

Eire:	Ireland South, South East and South Midlands
Ireland North:	Ireland West, North East and North Midlands

Helpline. Volunteers are required for the Helpline. Please contact GSO on 0044 (0)20 7593 2070 or email enquiries@al-anonuk.org.uk for information.

Members are reminded not to use the 0800 freephone number to call GSO because this will increase the telephone costs for Al-Anon. Please phone the office on 020 7593 2070. If you require meeting information,

please telephone 020 7403 0888 as this will not have an adverse effect on telephone costs to the General Fund.

Public Information (PI). A new PI Chairman will join the Board in January 2023. The title of the PI Campaign launched at Conference will be “Are you troubled by Someone’s Drinking”. The leaflet UK29 *Are you troubled by Someone’s Drinking* will be the focal point of the Campaign. A PI resources pack with templates for shares and a new downloadable poster, are available to download from the website free of charge. A PI literature bundle will also be available from the shop at a cost of £11/€13.

Literature. A new literature price list will come into effect in October. This reflects the increase in prices from WSO, and the increased printing and postage costs in the UK. The GSB approved the introduction of two new History Banners which will be available to purchase in due course.

Editorial Committee. There was no suitable candidate for the vacancy of Chair of the Editorial Committee commencing January 2023. In the absence of a Chairperson there is no Committee to produce *Al-Anon Today*. Shares are required for the Christmas edition of the e-zine to be submitted by 5th December. This will be the last edition produced until a Chairperson is appointed.

Online Al-Anon Meetings Working Party. At the 2022 UK & Eire Service Conference a motion was passed to introduce the registration of online Al-Anon meetings in the UK & Eire Structure. The Working Party will continue to work towards the completion of documents required to be in place before registration can commence. Further information will be sent to fellowship in due course.

GSO. There are two part time vacancies available at GSO. Conference Secretary and Group Records administration, working two days per week, office based. For further information contact officemanager@al-anonuk.org.uk.

The Trustees of the GSB would like to express their appreciation and gratitude to all the staff for their continued hard work, commitment and dedication throughout recent challenging years.

Appointments. The following Trustee appointments received traditional approval by the Conference, effective from January 2023:

- Heather McKaig, Regional Trustee, England South & East (three-year term)
- Lorna Hall, Regional Trustee, Scotland (three-year term)
- Nicky Lavis, Trustee at Large, Chairperson, Conference Committee (three-year term)
- Paul Stonebrook, Trustee at Large, Chairperson, Public Information Committee (one-year term).

Trustee Vacancies. The following are the vacancies effective from January 2024:

- Regional Trustee, England North & North Wales (three-year term)
- Regional Trustee, Eire (three-year term)
- Chairperson, Public Information Committee (three-year term)
- Chairperson, Editorial Committee (two-year term)
- Treasurer (three-year term).

Yours in fellowship

Nuala Carroll

Nuala Carroll
Chairperson
General Service Board