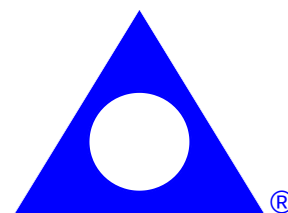


July 2023

**Al-Anon
Family
Groups**



Help and hope for families and friends of alcoholics

Al-Anon Family Groups UK & Eire
57B Great Suffolk St
London SE1 0BB
Office: 020 7593 2070

INFORMATION LETTER No: 82

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 on Friday 23rd and Saturday 24th June 2023 in London.

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 Reports of the Service Arms, the Treasurer and the Annual Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023 were received and approved for inclusion in the Conference Brochure. Interim Reports from the Chairperson of the Executive Committee and the Regional Trustees were received discussed and approved.

Finances The Treasurer presented to the Board the Annual Accounts which were approved. She will give a full presentation of the current financial situation at the UK & Eire Service Conference in September 2023 to the attending Area Delegates. This information will then be disseminated to the membership. Newsletters produced by the Treasurer will continue to be circulated to the members on a regular basis.

Family Groups Ltd The Annual General Meeting took place on Friday 23rd and Saturday 24th June. The Annual Reports and Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023, as well as the Safeguarding Policy and all supporting documents, were approved by the Trustees.

Public Information (PI) The General Service Board was given an update on the 2023 PI Campaign "Are You Troubled by Someone's Drinking". The external launch of the campaign took place on 15th May. A media release was sent to journalist and other professionals. Social media has been used to promote the campaign using shares along with case studies.

Eire Al-Anon Family Groups CLG have been registered as a relevant organisation for Garda vetting. It is intended to have a meeting after Conference to inform Area Delegates, DRs and members about the Safeguarding Policy and the procedures for Alateen.

Conference The UK & Eire Service Conference 2023 will be held at Birmingham from Friday 15th to Sunday 17th September. The Conference Agenda was approved by the Board. Information will be sent to all Area Delegates by the Conference Committee. The theme will be "Carrying the Message" and the topic for the workshop is Public Information.

Al-Anon • Alateen
Family Groups Ltd.
Registered Charity
Co. Reg. No. 984912
Place of Registration – England
VAT No. 237 4145 69

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GSO A new staff member has been employed; Linda Po started on 12th June as a Group Records Administrator. The Annual Record Check Forms were sent to all Groups on 25th April to be returned to GSO by the end of August.

Editorial A Committee has been re-established to continue work on the publication of *Al-Anon Today* e-zine and the Spring and Summer editions have been circulated. The Editorial Committee thanked all Members who contributed, and all members are encouraged to send in shares to ensure the e-zine's success.

TEAM Events TEAM Events Committee (TEC) met on Friday 23rd June. No TEAM events were held in the reporting period. Area Delegates have been asked to bring feedback to the UK & Eire Service Conference in September 2023; Do members wish TEAM events to continue and if not suggest alternatives.

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

- Regional Trustee, England North & North Wales (three-year term)
- Regional Trustee, Ireland South, South East & South Midlands (three-year term)
- Chairperson, Public Information Committee (three-year term)
- Chairperson, Editorial Committee (two-year term)
- Treasurer (three-year term)

The following are the Trustee vacancies for 2025:

- Chairperson, Executive Committee (three-year term)
- Regional Trustee, Ireland West, North East and North Midlands (three-year term)
- Regional Trustee, England West and South Wales (three-year term)

The closing date for receipt of applications at GSO for all of the above is 14th May 2024.

Online Meetings An update was given to the Board. Registration of online meetings commenced in March 2023 and to date over 100 Groups have been registered. A presentation will be given at the UK & Eire Service Conference 2023 detailing the next steps including the process for setting up the first virtual Area Assembly.

Minimum Age Requirement to Attend to Al-Anon Meetings After a detailed discussion the Board produced an information letter to be sent to the fellowship. This is in response to letters received opposing a decision made at the January 2023 Board meeting where it was agreed unanimously to introduce a minimum age requirement of 18 years to attend Al-Anon meetings. A presentation will also be given at the UK & Eire Service Conference.

Guidelines UKG2 'Group Representative', UKG11 'Finances for UK Groups' and UKG25 'Group Finance in Eire' were amended and approved by the Board.

Telephone Helpline/eResponders Service Volunteers are still required for both services. Any member who is interested in these service positions please contact GSO.

Yours in fellowship

Karen

Karen Murdoch
Chairperson
General Service Board