



INFORMATION LETTER No: 88

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

The General Service Board (GSB) met at Hinsley Hall, Leeds on Friday 20th and Saturday 21st June 2025. It was a very full agenda and the key items of discussion are listed below.

Could I ask Group Representatives to read this and any other information letters that may be received, in full to their Group. This will help communication flow throughout the fellowship. Members can also sign up to the GSO eNewsletter via the members area of the website.

GSB: The GSB welcomed Dawn S who kindly agreed to be co-opted to serve for one year as Trustee at Large with responsibility for England West and South Wales.

Reports: The Annual Reports from the Chairpersons of the Standing Committees (Conference, GSBNC and PI), the Chairperson of the GSB, the General Secretary and IAGSM Delegate were received, discussed and approved. They will be included in the Conference brochure and published in the Conference Summary. Interim Reports from the Chairperson of the Executive Committee and Regional Trustees were also received, discussed and approved.

Finance: The Treasurer gave the Board a presentation of the annual accounts for year ending March 31st 2025. An overview of the accounts and budgets will be presented at Conference and published in the Conference Summary along with the Treasurers' Annual Report. The Treasurer welcomed a new member to the ECPM (Executive Committee for Property Management) Martin, who has offered his practical skills to the fellowship and thanked the retiring member, Steve C, who has been a member of the ECPM for many years as well as former Treasurer.

Conference: The Conference agenda and papers for September were approved. The Chair confirmed that the Committee were looking at other venues for the future to give us other options.

Public Information (PI): A review of the campaign 'You are not alone!' was presented to the Board by the PI Chair. Members were thanked for supporting the campaign and reminded of the PI materials available through the website. The Board also discussed our strategy and policy for Digital Media and how we can better use this growing resource

Editorial: The Editorial Committee expressed gratitude to members submitting articles for *Al-Anon Today* and reminded us that the spring and summer editions of *Al-Anon Today* are available to download via the members' area of the website. For a meeting in your pocket, adding the [Al-Anon Today](#) link to your phone's home screen allows quick and easy access to Al-Anon's free online magazine.

They are in the process of producing the autumn edition and members are warmly invited to submit shares via www.al-anonuk.org.uk/share/

Online Groups: UK130 Online Policies and Procedures was approved. The Board thanked all members of the Online Al-Anon Meetings Groups Working Party for their work over the last three years in ensuring online Groups were fully integrated into our Service Structure

Safeguarding/Health & Safety: The General Secretary reported that she had received two safeguarding concerns. Both were discussed and resolved satisfactorily. The full Health & safety Policy & Procedures document was approved.

Young People in Al-Anon: Our professional advisors have given no new up-dates as regards under 18s.

Alateen: The Alateen thought force will be giving a presentation and full report at Conference. The policy and background on having Alateen meetings at the same time and place as an Al-Anon meeting was discussed and further information will be gathered and brought back to the next meeting.

Helpline: We were informed that we are still short of Helpline volunteers, many shifts are understaffed and we are missing calls. Any member with a minimum of two years attendance and who is not living with active alcoholism can volunteer for a three/four hour slot, weekly or monthly. Landlines and mobile phones can be used. Excellent training and mentoring is given. This is crucial service, please help or we may have to reduce the hours we open.

GSB Nominating Committee: A Regional Trustee vacancy remains unfilled as no one came forward for Ireland West, North East & North Midlands (Areas 13, 16, 29, 30). Former Conference Delegates of those Areas are asked to consider whether they could complete, the now one year term, by applying next year, as currently these Areas have no representation on the General Service Board.

The following applications were received, graded and approved by GSB, applications will be presented at Conference for traditional approval.

- Chairperson of Conference
- Chairperson of Editorial Committee
- Regional Trustee for Scotland (Areas 11, 12, 17, 21, 27)
- Regional Trustee for England, South and East (Areas 3, 4, 5, 6, 18, 20, 28)
- Regional Trustee, England West and South Wales (Areas 1, 2, 7, 22)
- Regional Trustee, England North and North Wales (Areas 8, 9, 10, 25, 31)
- Regional Trustee, Virtual Region

A reminder of Trustee vacancies for 2027 with an application deadline of 14th May 2026 which should be announced at Area Assemblies:

- Treasurer (three-year term)
- Chairperson, Public Information Committee (three-year term)
- RT, Ireland South, South East & South Midlands (three-year term /Areas 14, 15, 19, 23)
- RT, England North & North Wales (three-year term /Areas 8, 9, 10, 25, 31)
- RT, Ireland West, North East and North Midlands (one-year term /Areas 13, 16, 29, 30)

Yours in Fellowship

Angela

Angela Lidster

Chairperson of the General Service Board

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