

SIXTIETH GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE 2026

COMMITTEE No. 1

CASTLE SUITE

First Meeting Friday, 17 April 2026	4.00 pm - 5.45 pm
Second Meeting Saturday, 18 April 2026	9.00 am -12.45 pm
Third Meeting Saturday, 18 April 2026	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm
Completed Reports to Secretarial Staff	5.00 pm

CHAIR

MARK T

NORTH EAST REGION

SECRETARY

JULIE P

WALES & BORDERS REGION

Laura W	General Service Board
Mick J	General Service Board
Sheila C	General Service Board (Elect)
	Eastern Region
Kim S	London Region North
	London Region South
	Midlands Region
	North West Region
	South East Region
Tania P	South Midlands Region
David H	South West Region
	East of Scotland Region
John C	Glasgow Region
Becca C	Highlands & Islands Region
Sarah R	Scotia Region
Scott R	South West Scotland Region
Marketa K	Continental European Region
	Observer

1. Would Conference consider the adoption of inclusive wording in the AA GB Preamble—specifically replacing “a fellowship of men and women” with “a fellowship of people”—in light of AA’s Responsibility Pledge and the Third Tradition.

Background

[2022 Conference Decision \(Committee 5, Question 1\)](#)

Responsibility Pledge

Tradition 3 (Long Form)

2. Would Conference discuss and recommend suggestions as to how our AA Groups could increase their 7th Tradition contributions so that our Fellowship is as financially robust as it can be for the future in terms of carrying its message to the still suffering alcoholic?

What Issue Does This Address?

In recent years (since 2022/23) the Prudent Reserves across the Fellowship has come under pressure due to declining contributions and increasing costs. With societal moves towards a cashless society and the norm of “the pound in the pot” this is likely to continue unless the trend can be reversed.

Whilst Gift Aid and Gratitude Week are good and worthy initiatives, they will not address the ongoing structural issues the Fellowship faces in terms of its ongoing funding needs from Groups down through structure to the General Service Board. It is therefore appropriate that this issue be addressed as soon as practicable.

Has This Issue Been Discussed Before Within ...

The ongoing finances of the Fellowship have been discussed extensively in Conference and all through structure in recent years. From experience this is very much a “hot topic” across the Fellowship as a whole.

Background Material

UK Prices & Purchasing Power Report (1975–2025)

Purchasing Power of £1 (in 2025 equivalent)

Year	£1 in that year equals (2025 £)
1975	£10.72
1985	£3.87
1995	£2.46
2005	£1.91
2015	£1.42
2025	£1.00

Average Prices of Selected Goods (1975–2025)

Item	1975	1985	1995	2005	2015	2025
Pint of lager	£0.23	£0.80	£1.66	£2.41	£3.45	£4.70–5.00
Pint of bitter	£0.20	£0.72	£1.48	£2.13	£2.96	£3.50–4.50
Glass of wine (175ml)	£0.25–0.40*	£0.90*	£1.50–2.00*	£2.20–2.50*	£3.46	£4.50–5.20
Packet of cigarettes (20)	£0.42*	£1.20–1.60*	£2.59	£4.57	£8.88	£15–17
Pint of cider	£0.18–0.30*	£0.70–0.90*	£1.40–1.80*	£2.00–2.40*	£3.00–3.50*	£3.50–4.50
Can of Coca-Cola (330ml)	£0.06–0.10*	£0.20–0.35*	£0.60*	£0.75–1.00*	£0.90–1.20*	£1.00–1.50
Bottle of wine (75cl)	£1.00–1.50*	£3.50–4.50*	£5.00–6.50*	£6.50–8.00*	£7.50–9.00*	£8–12
Bottle of vodka (70cl)	£4–8*	£8–12*	£10–15*	£12–18*	£12–20*	£15–25+
Bottle of whisky (70cl)	£4–10*	£10–16*	£12–18*	£15–25*	£15–30*	£20–40+
Bottle of gin (70cl)	£4–8*	£8–12*	£10–16*	£12–18*	£12–20*	£15–30+
Cup of coffee (café)	£0.05–0.10*	£0.20–0.35*	£0.60–1.00*	£1.00–1.60*	£2.00–2.80*	£2.50–4.00

Notes:

* Starred figures are estimates based on historical price guides, inflation adjustments, or industry averages where ONS item series were unavailable.

ONS RPI/CPI item series were used wherever possible for accuracy (e.g. pints of lager/bitter from 1995+, cigarettes, wine glass 2015+, etc.).

2025 prices are based on the latest available 2024/early 2025 data and market reports.

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions - Tradition Seven

Concept XII - Warranty Two ([The AA Structure Handbook for GB 2025/26](#))

The Pot... Where AA money and spirituality mix (AAGB pamphlet)

AA Money - Page 100 AA Structure Handbook for GB 2024

How Will the Alcoholic Who Still Suffers Benefit

By ensuring the hand of AA will always be there.

3. **Review revised Chapter 7 of the AA Service Handbook for Great Britain & Continental Europe – AA in Prisons**

Background

Revised ~Chapter 7 – AA in Prisons

Consider the contribution to the carrying of the message, financial and practical implications when deliberating each of the questions.

4. **Elect Committee Chair for Conference 2027.**

5. **Elect Committee Secretary for Conference 2027.**

SIXTIETH GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE 2026

COMMITTEE No. 2

SWALE SUITE

First Meeting Friday, 17 April 2026	4.00 pm - 5.45 pm
Second Meeting Saturday, 18 April 2026	9.00 am -12.45 pm
Third Meeting Saturday, 18 April 2026	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm
Completed Reports to Secretarial Staff	5.00 pm

CHAIR

DAVE W

SOUTH WEST REGION

SECRETARY

SIMON P

SOUTH MIDLANDS REGION

Kevin D	General Service Board
Woody A	General Service Board
Sheila E	General Service Board
Marie L	General Service Board
	Eastern Region
	London Region North
	London Region South
	Midlands Region
	North East Region
	North West Region
	South East Region
	Wales & Borders Region
	East of Scotland
	Glasgow Region
Ian M	Highlands & Islands Region
	Scotia Region
James D	South West Scotland Region
Elizabeth B	Continental European Region
	Observer

1. **Would Conference share their experience, and consider the need to expand on the guidance provided in the Structure Handbook (page 119) with specific reference to children, minors and juveniles attending AA meetings?**

What Issue Does This Proposal Address?

Whilst the Fellowship has general safeguarding guidelines referencing this matter, it is felt that the Fellowship would benefit from sharing its experience on this subject given the increasing needs of parents/guardians to bring their children to the meetings they attend, as well as children, minors and juveniles attending meetings in their own right.

Background Material

[AA Structure Handbook for GB 2025/26 - page 119](#)

How Will the Alcoholic Who Still Suffers Benefit

Although groups are autonomous, by sharing their experience how we might accommodate parents/guardians and their children in meetings we will make our meetings more accessible to those with parental demands.

By making it clearer how best the Fellowship can support children, minors and juveniles who may suffer from alcoholism we will be helping our members to be of maximum service to those so affected.

- 2. Would Conference discuss how the Conference process could be made more attractive, inclusive, and engaging for the Fellowship, so that all members and groups feel connected to, and part of, the way AA's collective conscience is expressed?**

Background

The General Service Conference is where AA's collective conscience is expressed for our Fellowship as a whole. Concept One tells us that the **final authority and responsibility rests with the groups**. But some members/groups feel distant from the process, unsure how to connect with it.

The aim is to help all members feel connected to our collective conscience.

AA GB Structure Handbook 2025/26

- Alcoholics Anonymous Great Britain & Continental Europe – Section 6. The Twelve Concepts
- The General Service Conference

General Service Conference Pamphlet

Consider the contribution to the carrying of the message, financial and practical implications when deliberating each of the questions.

- 3. Elect Committee Chair for Conference 2027.**
- 4. Elect Committee Secretary for Conference 2027**

SIXTIETH GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE 2026

COMMITTEE No. 3

HOWARD SUITE	
First Meeting Friday, 17 April 2026	4.00 pm - 5.45 pm
Second Meeting Saturday, 18 April 2026	9.00 am -12.45 pm
Third Meeting Saturday, 18 April 2026	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm
Completed Reports to Secretarial Staff	5.00 pm

CHAIR

CATH W

HIGHLANDS & ISLANDS REGION

SECRETARY

ADAM G

LONDON REGION NORTH

Neil M	General Service Board
Liz L	General Service Board
Peter A-L	General Service Board
Charlie Q	Eastern Region
Gillian S	London Region South
	Midlands Region
	North East Region
	North West Region
	South East Region
	South Midlands Region
	South West Region
	Wales & Borders Region
	East of Scotland Region
	Glasgow Region
	Scotia Region
	South West Scotland Region
	Continental European Region
	Observer

1. Does Conference believe the Fellowship is doing enough to help and support older alcoholics in finding our Fellowship and finding recovery? Would Conference consider what more could be done to make our Fellowship more accessible to older people with serious alcohol related issues?

What Issue Does This Address?

I came to the Fellowship as a 57-year-old man who thought they had they had lived their life with alcoholic loneliness my only future. Whilst I was welcomed on my arrival I found (very) few people coming to the Fellowship at a similar age to myself and who had similar shared experience, though I did see specific support for younger people, people of colour, people with issues other than alcohol, gender diversity etc., etc. Whilst not feeling excluded I did feel my entry point different from many people and in hindsight some additional support would have been welcomed.

In his excellent article in the AA Winter Service News (Winter 2024) Dr Kieran Moriarty wrote about alcohol and older people and described it as a “silent epidemic”. From personal experience as a Regional Health Liaison Officer I now see this firsthand in many of the service activities I undertake and it would be good to see our Fellowship rise more specifically to the challenge of this “silent epidemic”.

Background

GSB approved pamphlet - available via AAGB website shop - “AA for the Older Alcoholic - Never Too Late”.

[Alcohol and Older People - A Silent Epidemic - AA Service News \(Winter 2024\) - Dr Kieran Moriarty \(NA Trustee\)](#)

How Will the Alcoholic Who Still Suffers Benefit....

By making the Fellowship more accessible to older people we will make it easier for this growing segment of society to find the recovery they need and broaden the base and representation of our Fellowship in the future.

2. Would Conference consider and share their experience of how the Fellowship can improve its understanding and application of the 12 Concepts within Service?

Background

The Steps, Traditions and Concepts make up the 36 spiritual principles of Alcoholics Anonymous, but the Concepts are often overlooked.

[AA GB Structure Handbook 2025/26](#)

- Alcoholics Anonymous Great Britain & Continental Europe – Section 6.2 Twelve Concepts for Service
- Alcoholics Anonymous Great Britain & Continental Europe – Section 6.3 Bill W.’s essays on The Twelve Concepts for World Service

Consider the contribution to the carrying of the message, financial and practical implications when deliberating each of the questions.

3. Elect Committee Chair for Conference 2027.

4. Elect Committee Secretary for Conference 2027.

SIXTIETH GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE 2026

COMMITTEE No. 4

NORTH RIDING SUITE

First Meeting Friday, 17 April 2026	4.00 pm - 5.45 pm
Second Meeting Saturday, 18 April 2026	9.00 am -12.45 pm
Third Meeting Saturday, 18 April 2026	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm
Completed Reports to Secretarial Staff	5.00 pm

CHAIR

ANGELA Y

GLASGOW REGION

SECRETARY

SUZIE C

NORTH WEST REGION

Simon M	General Service Board
Joanne H	General Service Board
Steve E	General Service Board
Jorge L	General Service Board
Mik N	Eastern Region
Martin E	London Region North
	London Region South
	Midlands Region
	North East Region
	South East Region
	South Midlands Region
	South West Region
	Wales & Borders Region
	East of Scotland Region
	Highlands & Islands Region
	Scotia Region
	South West Scotland Region
Marisa C	Continental European Region
	Observer

1. **Would the Fellowship discuss and share experience regarding how we might strengthen our practical application of Tradition One — “Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon AA unity” — so that we maintain safety and unity within AA, and avoid the need to use the term “safeguarding” in our literature?**

Background

When applied practically, Tradition One leads us to create safe, welcoming environments, in which the still-suffering alcoholic can recover.

In recent years, Conference discussion has given rise to literature being created by the Board and subsequently approved by Conference: it can be found in the Structure Handbook P115-123.

The General Service Board (as a charity) is required by law to hold a Safeguarding Policy.

Some members believe that the Fellowship itself should not be seen to adopt external policy frameworks, or use terms like 'safeguarding', as they may compromise AA's Traditions.

If groups use this question to discuss their practice of common welfare, and share with Conference their conclusions and suggestions, then we will strengthen the daily, practical application of Tradition One — in meetings, service structures, sponsorship, and Fellowship life — so that AA continues to offer a safe and unified environment in which our primary purpose (Tradition Five) can be fulfilled.

Tradition One (Short form and Long Form)
Tradition Five

- 2. Would Conference share members experience of the safeguarding role at all levels of the service structure to inform a role description and sobriety length for the Service Handbook.**

Background

Guidance would ensure those in Safeguarding roles are of maximum benefit/service in supporting the groups to adhere to healthy safeguarding practices in their meetings. This, in turn would enable the group to better carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic, protect the newcomer, members and the fellowship as a whole.

[**Chapter 5 – The Group – Safeguarding and Personal Conduct**](#)

Consider the contribution to the carrying of the message, financial and practical implications when deliberating each of the questions.

- 3. Elect Committee Chair for Conference 2027.**
- 4. Elect Committee Secretary for Conference 2027.**

SIXTIETH GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE 2026

COMMITTEE No. 5

DERWENT SUITE

First Meeting Friday, 17 April 2026	4.00 pm - 5.45 pm
Second Meeting Saturday, 18 April 2026	9.00 am -12.45 pm
Third Meeting Saturday, 18 April 2026	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm
Completed Reports to Secretarial Staff	5.00 pm

CHAIR

GARY H

GLASGOW REGION

SECRETARY

PHILL O

EASTERN REGION

Rawiri C	General Service Board
Rose W	General Service Board
Chris W	General Service Board
Richard d P	General Service Board
Laura G	London Region North
Nicola R	London Region South
Jemma E	Midlands Region
June N	North East Region
Sarah V	North West Region
	South East Region
	South Midlands Region
	South West Region
	Wales & Borders Region
	East of Scotland Region
	Highlands & Islands Region
	Scotia Region
	South West Scotland Region
	Continental European Region
	Observer

1. **Would Conference consider the impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on Alcoholics Anonymous, and more specifically:**
 - i. **How AI might assist the Fellowship in carrying out its primary purpose**
 - ii. **What risks AI may pose to AA, especially regarding anonymity, data privacy and automation**
 - iii. **Whether shared experience and/or guidance is needed to help ensure any use of AI remains in line with AA's Traditions and spiritual principles**

Artificial Intelligence is advancing rapidly and becoming an integral part of everyday life, already influencing how people seek help, connect with others, create content, and access information.

These developments may also affect how members and newcomers encounter AA, as well as how service is carried out within the Fellowship.

For example, AI is increasingly used in online search, automated translation, content generation and interactive chat tools—areas that could help make AA’s message and services more widely accessible. At the same time, such technologies raise important concerns around anonymity, data privacy, and automation (i.e. no longer one alcoholic helping another).

It therefore seems timely for the Fellowship to consider AI’s potential impact, both positive and negative, and to decide whether shared experience or guidance is needed to ensure its use remains in line with AA’s Traditions and spiritual foundations.

- 2. Would Conference share its experience on the importance of the Greeter role at our meetings, and make recommendations for inclusion in the Structure Handbook.**

Background

Most group level roles are detailed in the Structure [Handbook](#) but this vitally important role has been overlooked.

Consider the contribution to the carrying of the message, financial and practical implications when deliberating each of the questions.

- 3. Elect Committee Chair for Conference 2027.**
- 4. Elect Committee Secretary for Conference 2027.**

SIXTIETH GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE 2026

COMMITTEE No. 6

WEST RIDING SUITE

First Meeting Friday, 17 April 2026	4.00 pm - 5.45 pm
Second Meeting Saturday, 18 April 2026	9.00 am -12.45 pm
Third Meeting Saturday, 18 April 2026	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm
Completed Reports to Secretarial Staff	5.00 pm

CHAIR

PHIL S

EASTERN REGION

SECRETARY

BARRY McL

SCOTIA REGION

Michelle McG	General Service Board
Vic T	General Service Board
	General Service Board
Mark W	London Region North
Tom B	London Region South
Vanessa H	Midlands Region
Anna D	North East Region
Matt D	North West Region
	South East Region
	South Midlands Region
	South West Region
	Wales & Borders Region
	East of Scotland Region
	Glasgow Region
	Highlands & Islands Region
	South West Scotland Region
Ian M	Continental European Region
	Observer
	Observer

1. Could Conference explore and recommend safe ways for AA members in early sobriety to re-engage socially in light of the increasing presence of alcohol-free beers, wines, and spirits on the market?

Background

An old AA saying is that when Daniel escaped the lion's den with his head, he didn't go back for his hat! However, AA newcomers are faced with the difficulties of returning to social situations at work and with friends.

The opinion of established AA members can differ on these issues. Some feel that recovering alcoholics can drink alcohol-free drinks whereas others are of the opinion that this is wrong. Some members remark that 'non-alcoholic beer is for non-alcoholic people'.

AA Big Book references:

1. These allergic types can never safely use alcohol in any form at all (The Doctor's Opinion page: xxvi)
2. If tempted, we recoil from it (alcohol) as from a hot flame (Into Action page: 84)

2. **Review revised Chapter 8 of the AA Service Handbook for Great Britain & Continental Europe – Probation/Criminal Justice Social Work Services (CJSWS)**

Background

Revised Chapter 8 - Probation/Criminal Justice Social Work Services (CJSWS)

Consider the contribution to the carrying of the message, financial and practical implications when deliberating each of the questions.

- 3. Elect Committee Chair for Conference 2027.**
- 4. Elect Committee Secretary for Conference 2027.**