

Literature Report to Conference 2018

The Literature Committee has pleasure in presenting to the Fellowship, the following pieces of literature for consideration by Conference 2018. Some background information has been provided to give an indication how the new and revised literature came about.

New Literature

1. Your AA Group – and its place in the AA Structure

The Literature Sub-Committee, as part of its review of available literature, agreed that it would be useful to produce an updated edition of 'The AA Group'. The 1965 US edition was revised in 2001 by AA GB, but since then several changes in AA literature (like the production of the Structure and Service Handbooks) needed to be reflected. After trying for some time to amend the original pamphlet it was agreed that it would be better to produce a new publication incorporating only some of the material. (Some sections, like advice on how to set up a new AA group have been removed and can be made into separate pamphlets.)

The new booklet, 'Your AA Group', has been written to help newcomers to understand groups and how they work. It shows how the group relates to the intergroup, region and central structures of AA Great Britain. Although it is aimed primarily at the new member, it has also been compiled to assist those who are considering or giving service at group level and beyond.

2. AA in Treatment Settings – *How We Can Help*

The idea of a new pamphlet was born at the annual Regional Health Liaison Officers meeting in 2015 regarding "the influx of new members from treatment centres". It was discussed that the AA USA/Canada website has a lot of information that could be of use to HLOs in our country. The HSC agreed to take this forward and after searching www.aa.org, it was agreed that of all of the health-related documents that are available, the 'AA in Treatment Settings' pamphlet would be the most relevant, and would require the least modification to adapt it to the situation in Great Britain. The HSC agreed to undertake this work, which was passed to the Literature Subcommittee, where we worked together to get a final version ready for Conference. We believe this pamphlet is beneficial to our own members wishing to be involved and will help treatment facilities.

Revisions to Existing Literature

1. The General Service Conference – The Conscience of AA GB

This pamphlet is the consolidation of 3 documents; – 1) How to Submit a Question to Conference; 2) The Annual Process Map and 3) The Role and Function of Conference. After receiving a request from the fellowship to combine the three pamphlets into one, the Literature Committee felt it a good idea and would also save time and money on production and distribution.

Items that came from Conference 2017

- ❖ **From Committee 1 Question 2:** Chapter 4: AA members employed in the alcoholism field – The Literature Committee are proposing removal of the whole Chapter.

This chapter is not about AA Service but advice to individuals employed in the posts in question, or considering such employment. This Chapter sought to give guidance on how people manage their working lives, while that might have been appropriate to the more general nature of the guidelines that the Service Handbook originated from, it was felt that for a handbook focused on how we do service within AA, this was an outside issue.

However, the Committee felt that whilst this Chapter did not belong in the AA Service Handbook a separate leaflet maybe useful for those considering employment in this field. The Literature Committee propose to look at a potential new leaflet, using some of the existing information, for submission to a future Conference.

The following items will be going to Committee to approve the proposed revisions to:

- ❖ AA Service Handbook - Chapter Three: AA and Electronic Communications

Summary:

Any member of the Fellowship who has comments, questions or suggestions about these pieces of literature should contact the Literature Committee before the 31st March 2017.

This will give us time to make a considered and appropriate response to ensure the best possible outcome for the Fellowship. The Literature Committee can be contacted through GSO.

The Literature is being distributed electronically. However, hard copies will be sent to those without email addresses, and to those Delegates who request printed versions.

With very best wishes

Denise H
Trustee for Literature