

What does an ELO do?

- 1** Carries the message of AA to employers supported by their local intergroup, employment service committee and region.
- 2** Regularly attends intergroup providing updates on their service.
- 3** Contacts employers in their area by telephone, in person, by email or post to make them aware of AA, what we do and how we can help problem drinkers in their organisation.
- 4** Gives talks and presentations, facilitates workshops and distributes literature.
- 5** Can join or help form a public information or service committee with other intergroup officers which can help share experience and support.

How can I get support?

- 1** Familiarise yourself with the section describing the role of the ELO in The Service Handbook of AA Great Britain.
- 2** Speak with your sponsor.
- 3** Familiarise yourself with the Twelve Traditions.
- 4** Speak with the outgoing ELO or someone else who has had experience as an ELO.
- 5** Attend your intergroup. If there is a Public Information/Service Committee meeting at your intergroup it can also be helpful to join this.
- 6** Attending your local ELO committee meetings with other ELOs in your region coordinated by your Regional Employment Liaison Officer (RELO) can provide you with invaluable support, experience and encouragement.
- 7** You can email the employment subcommittee at employment.sc@aamail.org
- 8** Check out ELO website resources here <https://bit.ly/3kSpUDM>



Now that I'm an Employment Liaison Officer (ELO)

What do I do?

The purpose of this pamphlet is to outline the role of the ELO in Alcoholics Anonymous



The service structure of Alcoholics Anonymous (Great Britain) incorporating the employment service structure

‘Our leaders are but trusted servants: they do not govern’

(Extract from Tradition 2)

Groups

All AA groups are autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or AA as a whole. Groups can work in their locality to provide public information. This may also include contacting and sharing information with employers.

Intergroups

Intergroup officers and GSRs from all AA groups within specific areas meet to coordinate local public information activities. As a serving officer the ELO attends intergroup, reports on employment activity, attends ELO committee meetings and may form part of an intergroup public information committee where it exists.

Regions

Regions. There are 16 AA GB regions. The Regional Employment Liaison Officer (RELO) attends regional committee meetings and reports on ELO activity, chairs ELO committee meetings, supports new and existing ELOs and helps to coordinate regional employment activity.

The General Service Office (GSO) of AA GB supports the GSB and the GSC. GSB provides central support for the Fellowship as a whole with such services as literature distribution and the answering of day-to-day enquiries from the membership, professions, media and the public. There are also two satellite offices, the Northern Service Office in Glasgow and the Southern Service Office in London.

General Service Office

General Service Conference

The General Service Conference (GSC) acts as the conscience of AA in Great Britain. In addition to approving changes to literature and guidelines, the GSC addresses issues and concerns raised by the membership and may instruct the General Service Board (GSB) to take action as a consequence. It is the Fellowship’s ultimate service authority and is administered by a steering committee comprising the annually elected conference chairperson and six conference committee chairpersons, two GSB trustees, the general secretary and the GSO conference co-ordinator.

GSB Employment Sub-Committee

General Service Board

The General Service Board (GSB) executes the decision of the GSC and carries out those tasks necessary as a consequence of the board’s charitable status. The GSB consists of a board of trustees from each of the 16 regions and non-alcoholic trustees, all of whom go through a nomination process and are ratified by GSC.

The Employment Sub-committee is one of a number of different sub-committees and reports directly to the GSB. It comprises members of the Fellowship with experience in the employment role. It is chaired by a GSB trustee and tasked with affairs pertaining to the employment discipline. Committee members liaise with regions to support ELOs and their respective committees. The sub-committee helps to promote the ELO role by manning employment information stands at conventions and providing talks on employment at regional and intergroup level. The sub-committee also cooperates with employers at a national level.

Declaration of Unity: This we owe to AA’s future; to place our common welfare first; keep our fellowship united. For on AA unity depend our lives and the lives of those to come.

How do I become an ELO? Starting out.

The role of the ELO — who should have at least two years’ continuous sobriety — is extensively described in The AA Service Handbook for Great Britain, Chapter 5. It is suggested that you familiarise yourself with the guidance in this book.

You can learn more about the role by chatting to a current or previous ELO and shadowing or observing them. Upon rotation or if the role is vacant you can attend your intergroup and express your interest and put yourself forward for election. If elected, being sponsored into the post is often beneficial.

There are lots of suggestions to help you get started in the “How can I get support” section.

