



**General Service Board of
Alcoholics Anonymous Ireland CLG**

ANNUAL REPORT

for 2025



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Mission Statement, Vision, Values

The mission of The General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous of Ireland CLG is to support, enhance and develop the efficient operations of the Fellowship of AA on the island of Ireland to ensure that the still suffering alcoholic will be supported to become involved in AA and receive the help they need'. The document 'Terms of reference' supports this mission statement very clearly.

Vision

"Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for AA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. AA is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organisation or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any causes.

Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety." Alcoholics Anonymous is a Twelve Step Fellowship dedicated to helping one another. The Twelve Step programme is AA's suggested programme for recovery from alcoholism and its effects.

AA's Twelve Steps are a group of principles, spiritual in their nature, which, if practiced as a way of life, can relieve the obsession to drink and enable the sufferer to become an active participating member of his/her family and society as a whole. AA's Twelve Traditions apply to the life of the Fellowship itself. They outline the means by which AA maintains its unity and relates itself to the world about it, the way it lives and grows.

There are approximately 750 AA Groups in Ireland with an estimated 14,000 – 16,000 AA members. AA meetings are held each week nationwide.

Full Information is available from our website www.alcoholicsanonymous.ie

The General Services Board of Alcoholics Anonymous of Ireland CLG will actively promote policies to protect its mission and values.

Values

This Code of Ethics is based upon a foundation of strongly held values. The commitment of the Board and staff to the ethos of the service guides all those involved in formulating and adhering to the Code of Ethics that follows:

Members and their desire for sobriety are the priority of GSBAA. GSBAA ensures that the services which it provides are of the highest possible standards. Equality, fairness and confidentiality in the delivery of our services are some of the core values of the service.

Introduction from our Chairperson – Tony O’Carroll

As Chair of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous (GSBAA), I am pleased to present this Annual Report, reflecting both the challenges and achievements of the past year. Alcoholism continues to have a profound impact on individuals, families and communities, and the need for compassionate, accessible and effective support remains as urgent as ever.

General Service Office (GSO)

This year has been marked by resilience and commitment. Despite increasing demand for our services and the growing complexity of the issues faced by those who seek support, our Fellowship and the staff of the General Service Office have responded with professionalism, care and integrity.

The dedication, innovation and enthusiasm of the GSO team continue to strengthen how we serve, while remaining firmly grounded in the principles and values of Alcoholics Anonymous. I encourage members to continue supporting their efforts in assisting all who contact the office for help.

Our Volunteers

I extend my deepest gratitude to our AA volunteers. Their generosity of time, lived experience, skills and empathy forms the foundation of our service. Often working quietly and without recognition, volunteers provide hope, connection and stability to those in need. Without their dedication, Alcoholics Anonymous in Ireland could not function as it does today.

I also acknowledge our Board members and committee participants who contribute their expertise to governance, oversight and service coordination. Their commitment ensures that our structure remains robust and aligned with both charity regulation and AA’s traditions.

Financial Position

We concluded the year in a healthy financial position. This stability is due in no small part to the generosity of our members. Their ongoing support enables us to maintain and enhance the essential resources we provide. We are sincerely grateful for that continued commitment.

Looking Ahead

Sustaining and strengthening our work requires continued engagement across the Fellowship. We encourage members and stakeholders to consider how they might

further support our shared mission — whether through service roles, participation in committees, sponsorship of new members, or contributing professional skills and experience.

A strong organisation depends not only on commitment, but on collective collaboration.

80 Years of AA in Ireland

In 2026, Alcoholics Anonymous will mark a significant milestone: 80 years of AA in Ireland. This anniversary reflects decades of quiet service, fellowship and recovery throughout the island. It provides an opportunity to reflect on our history while renewing our commitment to carrying the AA message of recovery to those who seek it.

Groups may wish, where appropriate, to mark this milestone through celebratory meetings — including open meetings to share the recovery message with the wider community, and closed meetings for members to reflect together on shared experience, strength and hope.

Our publication *The Road Back* will also mark the special anniversary. The publication is going from strength to strength, particularly since deciding to offer groups ten copies as well as allowing for digital download from our website.

Appointments and Departures

I am pleased to welcome James McKee (Ulster) to the General Service Board. James succeeds Kenny Paisley, also of Ulster, whom we thank sincerely for his dedicated service as Trustee. He is also valued for his contribution to the editorial team of *The Road Back* publication, which continues to grow in popularity among members. We also welcome Moira Sweeney, representing Leinster, and thank her for undertaking this important responsibility. Moira succeeds Emmet O Hanlon, whom we thank for his committed service as Trustee and Chair. Throughout his tenure on the Board, he provided steady leadership and significant support to the work of the General Service Board.

Acknowledging our Non-AA Member Directors/Trustees

We formally acknowledge the significant contribution of our Non-AA Member Directors and Charity Trustees, Diarmuid McKeown and Marie McGrath. Through diligent oversight and strong governance, they have helped ensure compliance with

charity regulation while safeguarding the principles and traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Their strategic insight and commitment have been invaluable. In particular, their contribution to the National Public Information Committee has strengthened engagement with professionals who may encounter individuals with a drinking problem, helping to ensure that awareness of Alcoholics Anonymous and the Twelve Step recovery programme remains accessible throughout Ireland.

We also acknowledge the recent departure of Diarmuid McKeown from the Board and express our sincere appreciation for the time, expertise and dedication he brought to his role.

General Service Handbook for Ireland

A sub-committee to the Board is creating a more user-friendly version of our valued General Service Conference Service Handbook. This will allow users to navigate more smoothly to the different sections. The new handbook will feature easily identifiable coloured chapter markers and our new suite of PI Posters which designed by the National PI sub-committee.

AA Big Book in the Irish language

A special project which has been in the pipeline for some years has received the green light from Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. With permissions and the proper licensing agreements we are producing a digital version of the first 164 pages of the AA Big Book in the Irish language. A motivating factor in the decision to complete this project is the need to respect the Irish language and culture.

General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous of Ireland CLG

The General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous of Ireland CLG is the company name of the registered charity known as AA or Alcoholics Anonymous, a company limited by guarantee (CLG), not having a share capital, and registered under the Companies Act 2014.

Trustees/Directors

The GSBA consists of seven Trustees/Directors. These comprise of four AA Member Trustee/Directors (also known as Provincial Trustees) and three Non-AA Member Directors.

The main responsibility of the GSBA members is to manage the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous of Ireland CLG in accordance with the Constitution of the Company as approved by the company members.

The General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous of Ireland CLG and the General Service Office (GSO) is GDPR compliant.

Our Privacy Statement is available on our website at www.alcoholicsanonymous.ie

Board of Directors 2025

- Anthony O'Carroll
- Kenneth Paisley
- Sean Clancy
- Diarmuid McKeown
- Maire McGrath
- Moira Sweeney
- James McKee
- Emmet O Hanlon

Company Secretary

- Anthony McNamee

Company Information

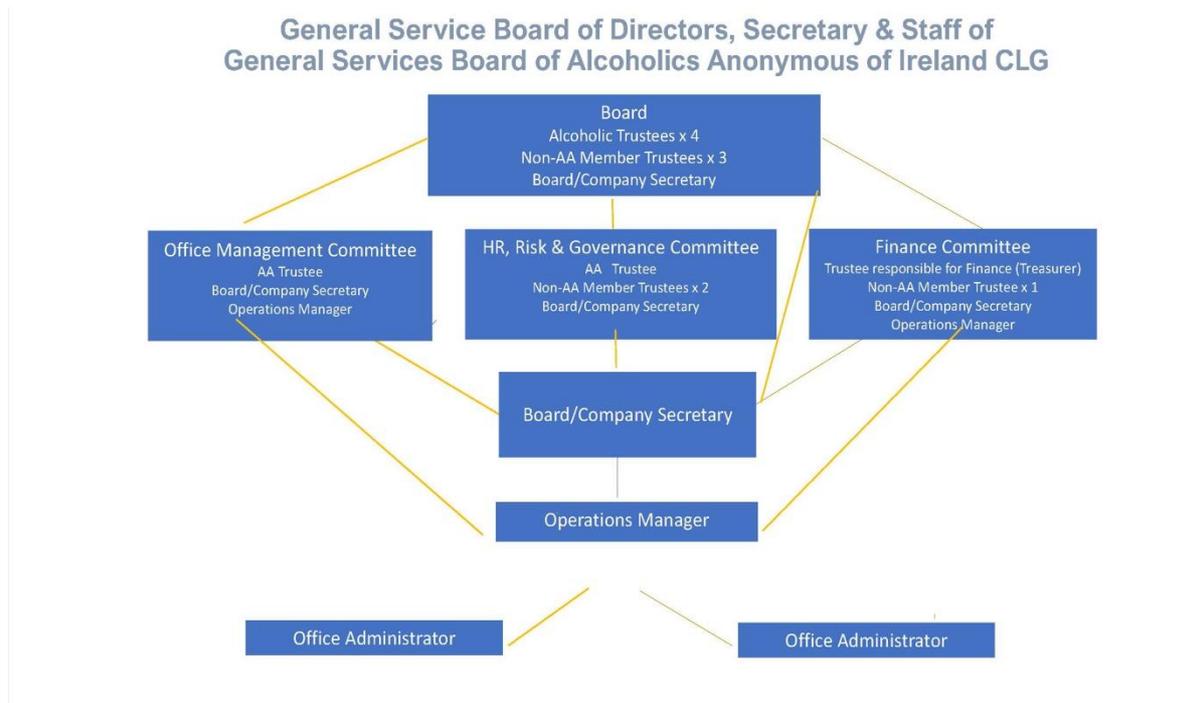
Registered Company in Ireland 64287

Charitable Status CHY 6014

RCN 20010010

Premises

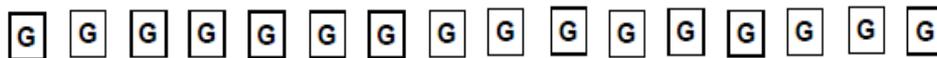
The General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous of Ireland CLG, (GSBAA) is in legal possession of one property, the General Service Office (GSO) at Unit 2, Block C, Santry Business Park, Dublin 9, D09 H584. This property is held on a 20-year lease, which commenced in January 2007.



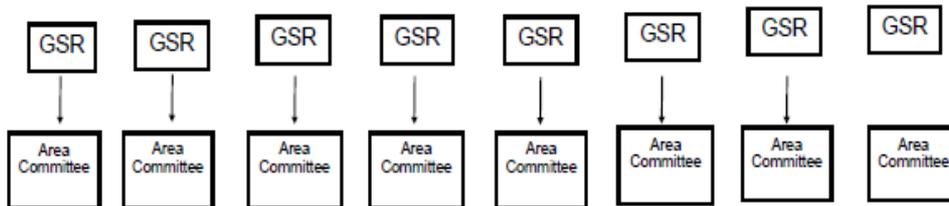
Structure of Alcoholics Anonymous

STRUCTURE OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS IN IRELAND

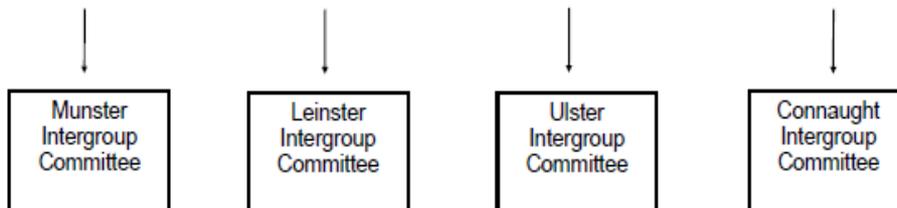
AA GROUPS (G)



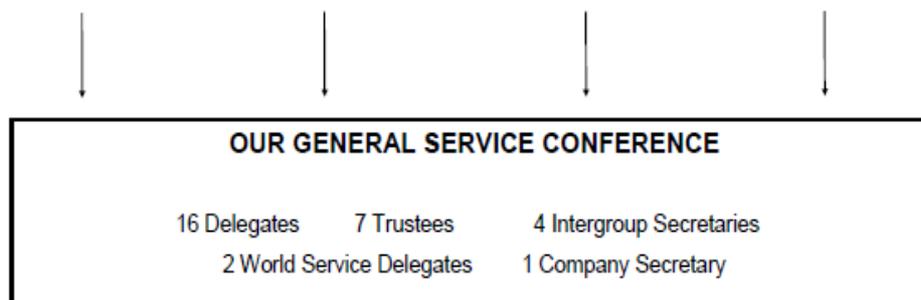
TWO GSR's FROM EACH GROUP FORM AREA COMMITTEES



FOUR MEMBERS FROM EACH AREA COMMITTEE FORM PROVINCIAL INTERGROUP COMMITTEES



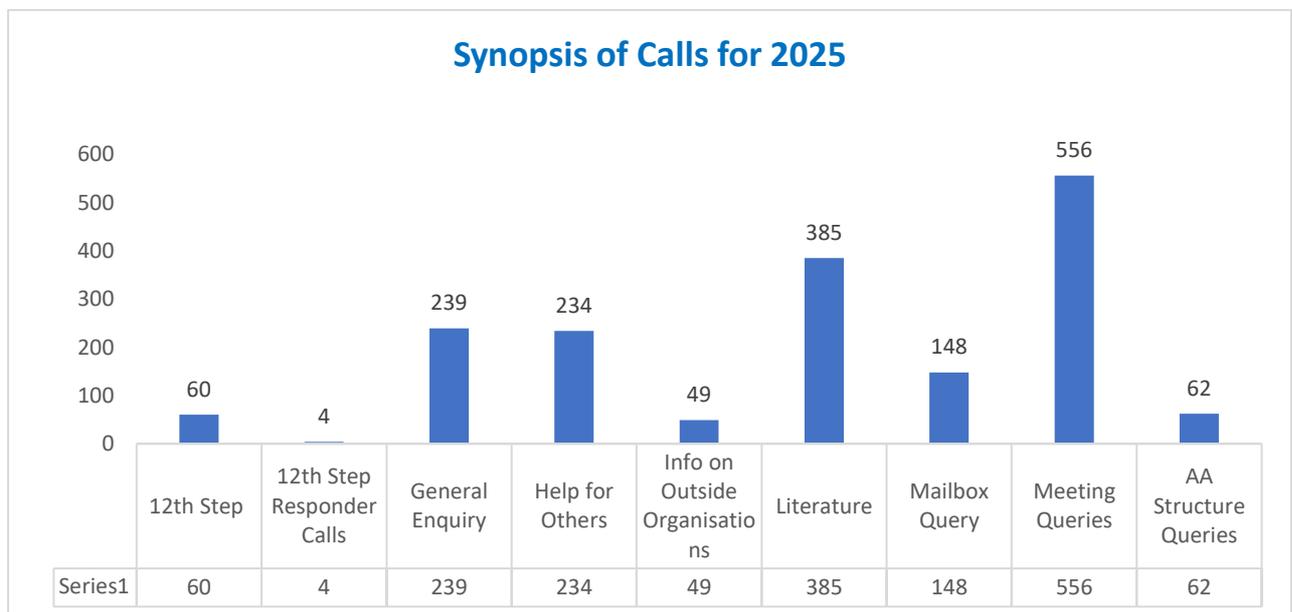
FOUR DELEGATES FROM EACH PROVINCIAL INTERGROUP TO GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE



Highlights

Calls to GSO

There was an overall increase in calls received by the General Service Office during the year. However, the number of calls answered directly by staff reduced, as callers increasingly had the option to speak directly with a 12th Step responder without first speaking to a member of the General Service Office. This team of experienced members provides guidance and support to those affected by alcoholism and seeking help through Alcoholics Anonymous.



Queries relating to meeting information also decreased. We believe this reflects the increased use of the Meeting Finder on our website, which enables members and newcomers to access up-to-date meeting information quickly and easily. Callers are encouraged to use the Meeting Finder where possible; however, the General Service Office continues to provide support to those who may not be comfortable using online resources.

Phone Responders

During 2025, we upgraded our telephone system to better handle and route the increased volume of calls that were coming to our Responder Service. This service was provided to help members of the public that were concerned with their relationship with alcohol to speak to another alcoholic. Since February 2025 our responders have chatted on more than 500 calls.

Website & Digital Engagement

Our website continues to serve as one of the primary points of contact for members, newcomers and members of the public seeking information about Alcoholics Anonymous in Ireland.

During the year under review, the website recorded over 555,000 page views, including more than 300,000 visits to the Meeting Finder page, which remains the most frequently accessed resource on the site.

Analytics data indicates that, in addition to the Meeting Finder, the most viewed pages were "New to AA" and "Types of Meetings". This is encouraging as it demonstrates that the website is being actively used by individuals seeking support and information about recovery. This aligns directly with AA's primary purpose of helping those who suffer from alcoholism.

Our News Updates mailing list continues to grow, with over 1,000 subscribed members receiving updates at least once per quarter. This service provides timely communication on developments within the Fellowship and ensures that members remain informed about key activities and updates.

The Board remains committed to the ongoing development and enhancement of the website to ensure that information is clear, accessible and responsive to the needs of both newcomers and existing members.

Online Literature Shop

The online literature shop continues to be a well-used section of the website, with more than 20,000 items purchased during the year under review. The average order comprised approximately 20 items, reflecting strong engagement from groups and individual members.

In total, more than €88,000 in literature sales were generated through the website over the past year.

The Road Back Publication

During 2025, four quarterly editions of The Road Back were published. Under the editorship of Kenny P, the publication has been reinvigorated through a renewed focus on Irish stories and locally generated content.

The number of requests for mailing updates continues to increase, reflecting sustained engagement with the publication across the Fellowship.

The editorial and publishing team have worked diligently throughout the year to produce each edition and to maintain the quality and consistency of content provided to members.

As a “meeting in print,” The Road Back plays an important role in supporting unity within the Fellowship by sharing experience, strength and hope. The publication contributes to AA’s primary purpose by providing accessible recovery-focused content to members throughout Ireland, including those who may be unable to attend meetings regularly.

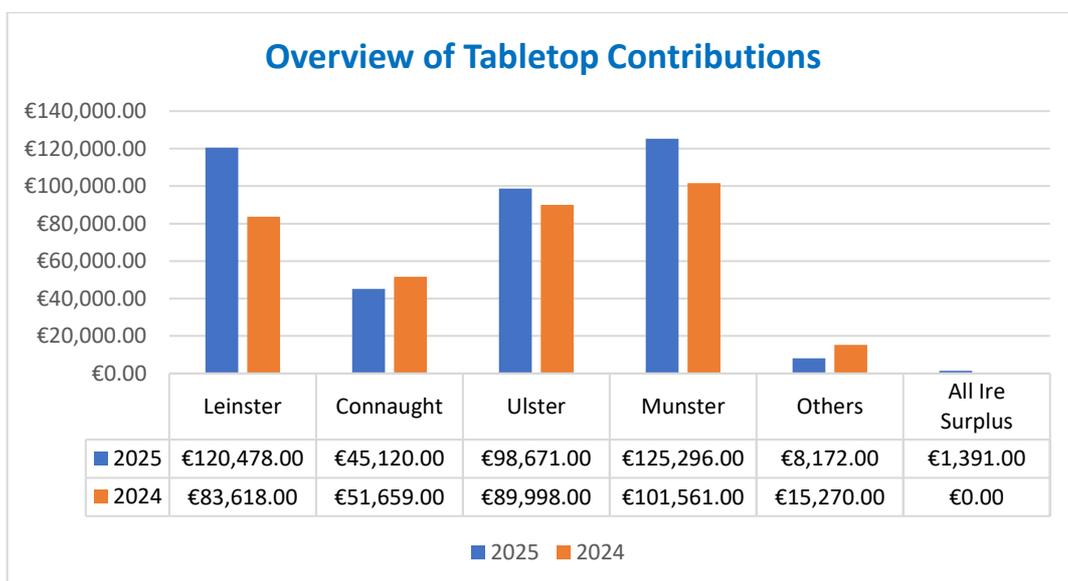
Financial Information

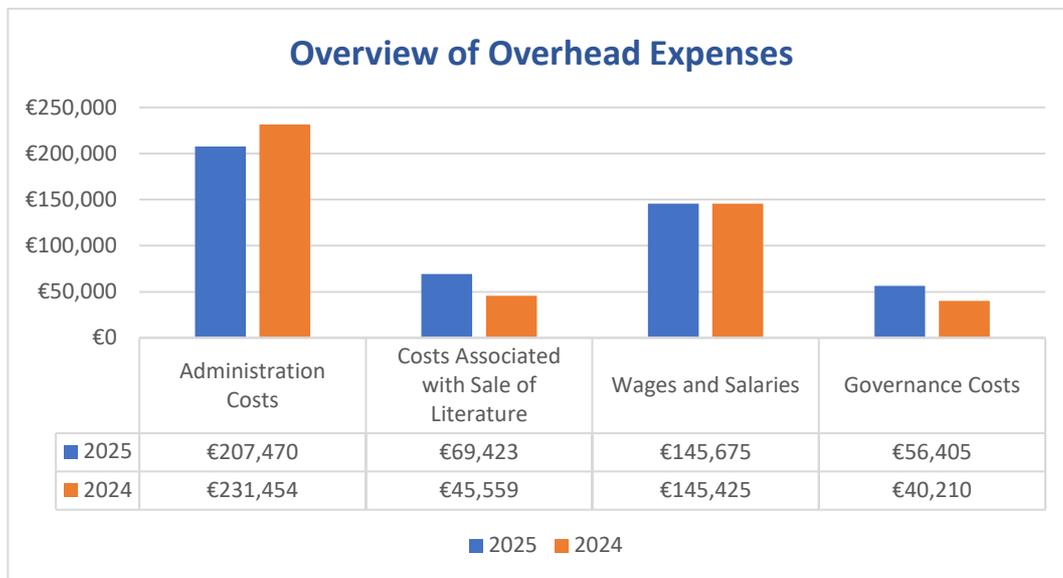
It is a real testament to the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous in Ireland that it continues to remain fully self-supporting through the voluntary contributions of its members. The generosity of the Fellowship enables the General Service Board to develop and maintain the essential services of AA throughout the country.

The charts below provide an overview of Income and Expenditure for the financial years 2024 and 2025.

Tabletop Contributions for the year ended 31 October 2025 increased from €342,106 in 2024 to €399,128 in 2025. This reflects a strong and encouraging growth in member support.

The year concluded with a surplus of €49,980, representing a significant increase on the previous year’s surplus of €3,795. It is important to note that during the year contributions were also made to the International Literature Fund and the European Service Fund. These funds rely on support from AA service structures worldwide to assist under-resourced and developing countries. In this way, the generosity of members in Ireland helps to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous beyond our shores.





The following table shows a snapshot of Income & Cost of sales, this information was extracted from the audited accounts.

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>
Income		
Contributions	€342,106	€397,737
Sale of literature	€122,259	€129,642
All Ireland Surplus		€1,391
	€464,365	€528,770
Cost of Sales		
Opening Stock	€23,569	€44,351
Cost of Literature	€67,898	€82,798
Freight	€541	€536
Distribution & Carraige	-€2,098	-€6,170
Closing Stock	-€44,351	-€52,092
	€45,559	€69,423

The figures also reflect the Board's continued investment in Public Information activity, supporting awareness of AA and access to meetings across Ireland. A full set of audited financial statements is available on our website at www.alcoholicsanonymous.ie

Contact Information

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