

Summary of Topics/Questions not accepted for Conference 2011

1. Would Conference consider reviewing the role of Intergroup Vice Chair with a view to extending its responsibility for a vacant Intergroup position?

Terms of Reference No. 7 This is regarded as a local issue. Guideline 4 covers the role of Vice Chairman and each Intergroup has discretion to allocate additional duties to any Officer to meet local requirements.

5. Literature liaison guideline.

As we are not self supporting and the sales of literature is a big part of our income could Conference recommend a guideline or task the literature committee to produce one for the position of literature Liaison at Group and Intergroup level and the same for the position of Share liaison.

Terms of Reference No. 7 The topic is fully covered in Guideline No. 2.

6. Would the Fellowship offer suggestions on what actions should be taken in accordance with AA Traditions, Concepts and Guidelines, where groups and individual AA members deviate from AA principles where these groups/individuals wish to participate in Intergroup, telephone service and Twelve Step work?

These digressions from AA principles include:

- **Putting pressure on newcomers to attend specific meetings in the area,**
- **Insist that members of their group attend a specific church,**
- **Recommend new members refrain from taking prescribed medication,**
- **Bring the AA name into disrepute with outside agencies through their extremist attitudes.**

Terms of Reference No. 7 Considered to be in contravention of the Concepts, particularly Concept 12, Warranties 4 and 5

7. Following a recent conscience meeting at our group a question arose, and has since been the subject of a further conscience meeting, as is laid out below.

Whilst appreciating that service alone will not keep us sober (this for us is working the 12 Step programme of Recovery to the best of our ability), and that the Traditions, Unity and Service help to strengthen our recovery, the simple question that arose was this:

Given that the Guidelines seem to vary between 1 – 2 years of continuous sobriety to be privileged to be either Chair or Secretary of an AA group – how are these timings arrived at?

Also there does not appear to be any active suggestions that those holding these service positions were in a situation where they were known to actively use the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions as a daily basis for living, that they may lead by example.

Terms of Reference No. 6 Insufficient background information to support this question- for instance, specific examples.

8. **Would the Fellowship offer suggestions on what actions should be taken in accordance with AA Traditions, Concepts and Guidelines, where General Service Office will not take a Group's details off of AA's Meetings Lists, where an Intergroup has notified General Service Office that the Intergroup has voted to take a Group off of the Intergroups meeting list because that group has outside affiliations in direct contravention of Tradition 4. Is General Service Offices seeming policy of non-confrontation, non-controversy and non-punitive action not in itself in breach of Tradition 4.**

Terms of Reference No. 7 Considered to be in contravention of the Concepts, particularly Concept 12, Warranties 4 and 5

9. **Would the Fellowship offer suggestions on what actions should be taken in accordance with AA Traditions, Concepts and Guidelines, where groups and individual AA members deviate from AA principles.**

These deviations from include but are not limited to:

- **Putting pressure on newcomers to attend specific meetings in the area,**
- **Insisting that members of their group attend a specific church,**
- **Recommend that new members refrain from taking prescribed medication,**
- **Use both AA and non AA approved literature, the latter being subtly altered but looking like AA literature, to 'indoctrinate' newcomers in the groups specific purpose,**
- **After having been taken off the Intergroups meeting list because they have outside affiliations, take down AA Contact Posters and replacing them with AA Contact Posters that include the groups details and web site address,**
- **Bring the AA name into disrepute with outside agencies through their extremist attitudes**

Terms of Reference No. 7 Considered to be in contravention of the Concepts, particularly Concept 12, Warranties 4 and 5

10. **Of all the literature and posters available there is only one pamphlet as far as we are aware, that states " A FIRST STEP CAN BE A CALL TO THE NATIONAL HELPLINE NUMBER AND THIS CAN ENABLE A PATIENT TO ATTEND A NEARBY AA MEETING ON THE SAME DAY OR VERY SHORTLY AFTER". This appears on pamphlet 3420,AA AS A RESOURCE FOR THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.**

As it is the 7th annual presentation at the Houses of Parliament in spring 2011 coming up and its aim is to raise awareness of what AA is and is not and how we co-operate with health, judicial, social services, other communities as well as the general public. If there was AA literature printed stating the fact that there is no referral or waiting time to get help from AA or into AA aimed at health, judicial, social services, other communities as well as the general public it would give them more insight of AA and how it works, that you do not have to be referred or have any waiting time to get into AA and to let them know how quickly you can get help and get into AA meetings for anyone who has a desire to stop drinking. Could these statements, or words similar, be included in the literature and posters for everyone, professionals and the general public alike?

Terms of Reference No. 7 This question has been sent to the Literature Committee for consideration.

11. **Our members are becoming quite concerned with the increasing number of people arriving in AA rooms with "drug abuse related problems".**

We are obviously aware that AA does welcome substance abuse addicts but at times there does seem to be conflict and confusion (maybe because one is legal, the other is not, there seems to be various differing factors).

We would therefore appreciate guidelines on how to best give constructive help to these people when we still have the name of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Terms of Reference No. 6 Insufficient background information – for instance, specific examples.

12. **“Would Conference consider issuing a reminder to the Fellowship about the dangers of members giving misinformation to newcomers on matters concerning medication and cooperating with the medical profession.”**

Terms of Reference No. 7 Topic is already fully covered in existing literature.

14. **“Would Conference discuss whether the annual summer meeting of Region Chairs is inside or outside the Service structure and is it representative of the Fellowship?”**

Terms of Reference No. 7 This meeting was approved on an annual basis by Committee 1 at Conference 1999.

16. **Would Conference consider the optimum functioning of the Conference Steering Committee on these two points:**

1. **My personal experience serving on the Committee was that the two late summer meetings are extremely pressured for time, in particular the October meeting as the Questions / Topics HAVE to be prepared. Then the February meeting was all done and dusted by the Friday evening, with the Saturday left free. Is this the best use of the Fellowship's money and the best use of the CSC's time.**

Considering that a constant theme in GSRs' feedback from our pre- Conference meeting is a failure of the questions to engage the Fellowship (and even comments on the sometimes confusing or erudite language), a less-pressurised format may be beneficial.

2. **Could Conference revisit the necessity for Board Members to sit and participate on the CSC. The Chair of Conference 2009 commented that the GSB members only contributed when invited to do so by the Chair of the CSC. The feeling of the last two Conference Delegates from our Region to have served their full term on the CSC is that this is slightly disingenuous. In our experience, the GSB members were most vociferous and when they were present, voted on every single issue that was put to a vote. If it remains the conscience of our Fellowship that the CSC retains two GSB members, surely we should not be shy of communicating the exact workings of the CSC to our members.**

Terms of Reference No. 7 Topic fully covered in the existing Conference Steering Committee Terms of Reference.

18. **Would Conference consider approving the production of a "slogan" card based on the HALT idea? That is:**

Don't get

**Hungry
Angry
Lonely
Tired**

As any one or a combination of these could lead to a Drink! (Suggest H A L T be in Red).

Terms of Reference No. 7 Passed to the Literature Committee for consideration.

- 19. What credentials does a group require to be included in the national 'Where to Find' (both printed and on the AA website)?**

Terms of Reference No. 6 Insufficient background material to support question.

- 20. Would Conference consider emphasising the importance of 'What AA does not do' (from 'AA at a Glance') by printing either a wallet sized or enlarged version**

Terms of Reference No. 7 Topic is already covered fully in existing literature.

- 22. Could Conference share experience and suggestions regarding the Starter Pack?**

Among the recommendations of Conference 2010 were comments regarding literature to be included in the Starter Pack.

There is anecdotal evidence (experience shared) that the contents of the starter pack has sometimes influenced new comers in a negative way.

The Starter pack is certainly a crucial item because it is given to newcomers as they come into AA. Sometimes with no prior knowledge of AA.

Should we ensure that the Contents of the Starter Pack are considered carefully and as the result of a Group Conscience.

Points considered could include....

- 1. Who should decide what goes in the Starter Pack?**
- 2. If a new or revised pamphlet is to be included in the Starter Pack, should this be proposed, considered and ratified at Conference?**
- 3. Very little has changed in the Starter Pack for years. Should it be left as it is?**
- 4. There is some concern that Newcomers are sometimes bombarded with too much information and suggestions. Professionals who are often involved with clients that are considering AA membership, have reported that some of those clients are "frightened away" from AA because they perceive it to be religious. Should information that might to a newcomer suggest a religious element, be left out of the Starter Pack?**

Terms of Reference No. 7 Passed to the Literature Committee for consideration.

- 23. Does the committee think that it is within the traditions of AA service that the GSO should be empowered to make entries into the national 'Where to Find' without some consultation with the Intergroup concerned?**

Terms of Reference No. 7 This topic was considered to be in contravention of the Concepts, particularly Concept 12, Warranties 4 and 5.

- 24. It has long struck me that in Guideline 12 we suggest that group "treasurers should keep good, simple records", but we don't make any suggestion as to a suitable method. Nor do we make any suggestions to Intergroup or even Region treasurers other than to say a bank account is advisable.**

Attached is a model of a cash book suitable for groups. It is a two page spread of a standard rule cash book and it would be sensible if GSO stocked such a cash book as a stationery item for sale with literature.

Apart from facilitating the keeping of records in an orderly and easily understandable fashion the Guideline should also show treasurers and other group offices how to reconcile the cash book with the bank statement. Many treasurers and most officers are unaware that this is the only check they have on group/intergroup/region finances.

Whilst it is currently recommended that all accounts are open to scrutiny at any time, it is important, particularly Region and Intergroup, that an independent examiner be asked to scrutinise the accounts annually and to issue a statement of satisfaction or recommendations.

Terms of Reference No. 5/7 There was discussion on the topic at Conference 2009. Furthermore, it was considered that implementation of such a system would be prescriptive and that local discretion should prevail.

25. Can Conference explain why the London "Where to find" meeting guide (WTF) costs more to buy than Share magazine?

Terms of Reference No. 7 This was deemed to be a local issue only, and did not, therefore, warrant Conference discussion time.

26.

- A. Can Conference expand on Committee no 4's finding on question 3 at Conference 2010 and explain specifically how Tradition 4 & 12 are broken when a group brings a speaker in from another country and when their expenses are not paid for by Tradition 7 contributions.
- B. Can Conference explain if this finding applies to speakers coming from English speaking Continental Europe or is it solely from North America, Non AAGB Europe, Africa, South America, and Asia/Australia? Would it apply if AAGB were to host the International Convention? Does it apply when AAGB Alcoholic staff is invited to Conference USA/Can; do they pay their own way? Would it apply if the AAGB Board ever invited a representative of Alcoholics Anonymous World Service (AAWS) to come and speak at conference?
- C. Can Conference expand on how an AA group would be acting outside of the service structure if the above 2 points were not in breach of the Traditions?
- D. Can Conference expand on why the Conference 1995 recommendation on international speakers was not added to the AAGB Service Handbook subsection, Guidelines for Conventions?
- E. Can conference expand on how AAGB came to the decision that an autonomous AA Group has to obtain Intergroup or Region sponsorship to host a convention if it operates said event in accordance with the 12 Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous and is not in breach of said Traditions?
 - ***AAWS Guidelines on Conventions does not stipulate that an AA Group needs to seek Intergroup or regional sponsorship to safely host a convention. It goes on to say. In some cases, the convention may be the responsibility of the general service committee from the area. In others, the convention committee may be organized separately. Either method works well if it corresponds to the wishes of the A.A. groups in the area.***
- F. If all the local groups are contacted and have no objection to a group organizing a convention on their own, then how is going it alone in breach of the Traditions?
- G. Can Conference confirm that the AAGB board, AAGB GSO and the AA GB Service Structure use a different set or variance of the A.A.12 Traditions as stipulated and convened by AAWS in the governance of its affairs and that of the UK fellowship?

- Terms of Reference No. 5 Discussed at Conference 2010 and that Committee no longer exists so cannot be invited to elaborate upon its response.
- 27. Can Conference discuss how it's actions in relation to Conference 1995 and Committee no 4 Conference 2010 decisions to act outside of the Traditions puts a personality ahead of a principle and therefore can be seen as punitive to groups and in breach of Concept 12.**
- Terms of Reference No. 5 Discussed at Conference 2010.
- 28. How should Officers conduct themselves when expressing their personal views, when those views conflict with the voted group conscience of their Group, Intergroup, or Region?**
- Terms of Reference No. 7 Covered in existing literature: Guideline No. 17 'Personal Conduct Matters'.
- 29. Can, or should, we expel groups from Intergroups and how should we treat an expelled group?**
- Terms of Reference No. 7 Covered in existing literature and is not in keeping with Concept 12, Warranty 5.
- 30. Will Conference consider giving clear guidance to AA groups and sponsors on the use within AA of non conference approved adaptations of the AA programme written by AA members and published outside of AA?**
- Terms of Reference No. 7 Covered in existing literature and by Tradition Four. Also discussed at Conference 2007 where it was recommended that all non-AA literature be kept separately from Conference approved literature.
- 31. 1) Bearing in mind our one ultimate authority, will Conference discuss making it clearer to members what constitutes non-affiliation and the importance of this term.**
- 2) Will Conference discuss the importance for members of Intergroup as a sponsoring body.**
- 3) Would conference consider the publication of a stand up card for groups containing P.I. Information Section 17.13 to 15 from the AA Service Handbook. One side stating "What AA does not do" and on the other side "What AA does do".**
- Make recommendations in regards defining guidelines thereby avoiding confusion for members.**
- Reason: Awareness of cult groups in local area and misrepresentation of the AA name. Response from Majority voting from several local meetings asking for recommendations from Conference to maintain our second legacy.**
- Terms of Reference No. 7 Covered in existing literature: Tradition 3 (Long Form)
- 33. In these financial conditions, do we really need to send 3 copies of AA Service News to every group, sending just one copy would not only cut down on printing (which I am told currently averages £2,700 every quarter) it would also reduce postage costs. Copies could be made available on request if needed and AA Service News can also be viewed on the website.**

I do appreciate that the content of AA Service News was discussed at Conference last year but this question regards the distribution and cost and has nothing to do with content.

Terms of Reference No. 5 Covered at Conference 2010.

34. 1) With guidance from our one ultimate authority, can Conference discuss and recommend clearer guidelines regarding non-affiliation to AA.
- 2) Will conference discuss and give recommendations regarding the benefits of Inter group as a sponsoring body and Conference as our guardian of the Traditions.
- 3) Can Conference discuss whether a clearer and concise guide of information as to 'What AA does do' and 'What AA does not do' as listed in the Service Handbook Section 17 Public information page 15, can be published for use at open and closed meetings.

Reasons: The group's concern of newcomers wandering into groups not sponsored by Intergroup and being drawn into cult activity not affiliated with AA.

Terms of Reference No. 7 Covered in existing literature: Tradition 3 (Long Form)

36. Whether it is in keeping with our traditions and guidelines for an A.A. meeting to produce a pamphlet that contains quotes from the Big Book.

Terms of Reference No. 7 Referred to GSO due to potential copyright issues.

37. Whether Conference could clarify the Fellowship's policy on the methods of paying for a group's literature order.

The literature secretary of a local group, tried to pay for the literature order online but has been told by York that certain items must be paid for by a cheque sent through the post. It was thought by our members that all items should be paid for online on the grounds of the principle of keeping it simple

Terms of Reference No. 7 Referred to GSO as there may be an administrative solution.

38. Would the fellowship share its experience on the appropriateness of specifying a required period of sobriety before an A.A. member should engage in a twelve step call, being ever mindful of the recommendation that two members should always attend such a call?

Terms of Reference No. 7 Covered in Guidelines and discussed at Conference 2007, Committee No. 2, Question 2.

39. Would Conference discuss and make a recommendation to insert another sentence in the AA Service Handbook for Great Britain at the end of Paragraph 3 of Article 10 of Section 9 of to read "*The General Service Board cannot authorise spending on any individual project costing more than £20,000 without prior Conference approval?*"

Terms of Reference No. 7 Covered in existing literature: Conference Charter, Article 10.

40. Would Conference consider and make a recommendation to the Fellowship a change to the 0845 National Telephone Helpline number to that beginning with the prefix 03? Conference gave approval for the 0845 number therefore only Conference can direct the Fellowship on such a change.

0845 numbers were formerly known as 0345 numbers, which were operated by BT and were described as "Lo-call" numbers (a play on the word "local"). 0845 numbers were,

until 2004, charged at the same rate as local calls (numbers with the same area code). The rates for "local" and "national" were later replaced by a single rate for calls to UK geographic numbers, which are now generally cheaper than calls to 0845 numbers. When the 0345 code was abolished, 0345 numbers were prefixed with 7 i.e. AA's number became 0845 769 7555 instead of 0345 697555.

In 2007 the Office of Communications (OFCOM) introduced numbers beginning with 03 for use by Government, Councils, public services, non-profit organisations, and charities. These numbers must (by law) cost the same as landline calls for all operators (including inclusion in any 'free minutes'). The call tariffs and call discounts for 03 numbers will be the same as if the consumer was calling a geographic (01 or 02) number.

Considerations

The main purpose of the National Helpline number is to assist the suffering alcoholic and a major consideration for the caller is the cost of the call.

Many callers are now trying to reach AA by mobile telephone and calls to our 0845 number from a mobile are considerably more expensive than a call from a landline, sometimes up to 30 pence a minute. If the AA number was changed to the new 0345 system the call would cost the same as to an 01 or 02 number. This is a far cheaper call option and in many cases would be a free call if the caller has inclusive minutes with their service provider.

Although some landline telephone service providers do not charge for calls to our 0845 number this is dependent on the caller's contract. Landline calls to 0345 in most cases would be free.

In August 2010 the GSB Trustee for Telephones informed the Regional Telephone Liaison Officers' meeting that call numbers were going down. If the cost to the caller was less expensive we would get more calls from the still suffering alcoholic.

Financial and Other Implications

There would be minimal cost to the Fellowship except that part of the call which is routed to local helplines. Since the new Business Plan which came into force as at 12 February 2010, call costs to our local Helplines have been considerably reduced and local funding is already in place.

Terms of Reference No. 7 Has been referred to Telephone Sub-Committee.

41. **Would Conference discuss and make a recommendation on the publication of an annual diary of meetings of Region Liaison Officers for the following year? This could be published in the Winter Edition of *AA Service News* every December and a confirmation letter sent to all Regional Secretaries when the publication is being mailed. It could also be published in the Diary of Events on the AA GSB Website.**

Terms of Reference No. 7 Referred to GSO. Is already on the Website.

42. **Would Conference support more regular and frequent TLO workshops with an emphasis on guidelines for 12 stepping?**

Terms of Reference No. 7 Local issue and is covered in existing literature: Guideline No. 6 'AA Telephone Services'

43. **Would Conference consider reducing the time allowed for resubmitting questions for Conference from its existing three years to a maximum of two years?**

- Terms of Reference No. 7 Will be referred to next year's Conference Steering Committee for consideration when deciding their Terms of Reference.
- 44. In light of the Conference recommendations of committee 6, question 1, 2007 would Conference give advice on how disenfranchised groups can be integrated into the AA Conference structure?**
- Terms of Reference No. 7 Covered in existing literature and is not in keeping with Concept 12, Warranty 5.
- 45. How can Intergroups and Regions ensure that they adhere to the twelfth tradition and always place principles before personalities?**
- Would conference share experience and give guidance on how we ensure that the spiritual principles espoused in tradition 12 while still ensuring the minority voice is heard and well considered.**
- Terms of Reference No. 7 Covered in existing literature and is not in keeping with Concept 12, Warranty 5.
- 46. In order to ensure unity would Conference please give advice on how disenfranchised groups could establish their own Intergroup in order to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic and participate fully in the AA service structure?**
- Terms of Reference No. 7 Covered in existing literature and is not in keeping with Concept 12, Warranty 5.
- 47. Would Conference consider introducing a guideline for regions which recommends that Conference delegates be required to give a commitment on election that they are or will become fully conversant with the practices and procedures of AA and with the following literature:**
- GB Service Manual
 - World Service Manual
 - Conference Charter and warrantees
 - 12 Traditions
 - 12 Concepts
 - AA Comes of Age
- Terms of Reference No. 7 This is covered in existing literature: AA Service Handbook for Great Britain, Section 10 'General Service Conference of AA in Great Britain, 6. Delegates.
- 48. Would Conference discuss the need for a non-geographical region within the UK service structure?**
- Terms of Reference No. 6/7 Insufficient background provided and covered in existing literature. Also not in keeping with Concept 12, Warranty 5.
- 49. Can GSC give us some guidance on whether we are 'recovered' alcoholics or 'recovering' alcoholics, based on the phrase in the book "we are alcoholics who have recovered from a hopeless state of mind and body"?**
- Terms of Reference No. 6 Insufficient background material
- 50. "One of Intergroups main functions is to help carry the message in a more effective way than individual Groups can e.g. within Hospitals, Prisons, Schools, etc. Can Conference suggest some ideas on what type of activities Groups can do to help on a**

local level that will not impact on the Intergroup function"

Terms of Reference No. 7 Local issue and will be covered in another accepted question

- 51. Could Conference give some guidance on whether and how Tradition 7 money could or should be spent locally by individual Groups to help carry the message?**

Terms of Reference No. 7 Covered by existing literature: 'The Pot'.

- 52. Can Conference make any recommendations as to how groups may access help in carrying the message from the AA service structure, primarily 12 step telephone service, telephone responder service, health liaison, public information, school talks etc. when they are refused this help by their Intergroup?**

Terms of Reference No. 7 Covered by another question/topic.

- 53. Would Conference discuss whether it is working in our Fellowship's best interest to be continually moving further from the service structure outlined in the AA Service Manual - often erroneously referred to as the "American" service structure - when our co-founder Bill W wrote and conceived the Concepts for World Service.**

Bill also wrote about not sacrificing the "good for the best" and although certain variations may be good for AA GB (and CER), does Conference feel it is for the best for AA unity that certain elements of the UK service structure stand outside the global model and remain unique to ourselves.

Terms of Reference No. 5 Similar question asked in 2010

- 54. Committee 6, Conference 2010 responded that the fellowship is unaware of any decline in first time contacts and that good work is already being done to attract new members.**

Would the Fellowship seek a group conscience at all levels of Service on whether we as a fellowship are satisfied with the level of 12th step work and attraction of new members to the fellowship that is being done at all levels of Service?

Does the amount of energy and the type of work being done best serve the spirit and intent of '*Carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic*'.

Terms of Reference No. 5 Similar question asked in 2010.

- 55. Would the fellowship consider its' relationship to the General Service Board, the General Service Office and The General Service Conference, and determine to what extent they, as those having "*Final responsibility and ultimate authority*" for AA services, *are indeed satisfied*?**

An ongoing method of determining satisfaction could include specific 'audits' by Conference committee, such as:

A. Audit of 12th step work:

Would Conference review the past year with respect to fulfilment of our primary purpose at the level of Conference, GSO and the GSB.

Specific background:

The review would be done with reference to the full reports of the General Service Board as well as a summarized overview of activities over the preceding 12 month period, supplied by GSO and GSB specifically for this question.

B. Audit of 12th step work:

Would conference review input from the fellowship its on perception of how effectively Conference, GSO and the GSB aid groups in carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic?

Specific background:

Any correspondence from members of the fellowship over the past year having relevance to the subject, to be provided to the committee by GSO and the GSB.

C. Financial audit by membership:

Would conference review the financial report by the GSB for the previous fiscal year with focus on any large expenditures or commitments and in addition review administrative procedures and decision making processes.

Specific background: Annual Report, detailed Financial report for past year.

Terms of Reference No. 5 Similar question asked in 2010.

- 56. Would Conference offer guidance on whether any AA group can ever be excluded from participating in the service structure and if so on what grounds?**

Terms of Reference No. 7 Covered by a similar question/topic.

- 57. Would Conference offer guidance on whether an A.A. group ought to conform to the wishes of other groups rather than its own group conscience?**

Terms of Reference No. 7 Covered by a similar question/topic.

- 58. Would Conference offer guidance on whether any AA group can ever be excluded from participating in the service structure and if so on what grounds?**

Terms of Reference No. 7 Covered by a similar question/topic.

- 59.**

Is it valid or not that in the preamble and traditions, if we are not affiliated with any sect, denomination or organisation is the practice saying of the serenity prayer at end of meetings appropriate ?

Terms of Reference No. 6 Insufficient background material and Tradition 4.

- 60. Conference currently sets time aside on board reports for board trustees to report and then only to answer questions which are submitted in writing in advance. Could you weigh up the advantages and disadvantages of alternative ways of reporting, in particular in terms of improving the accountability of trustees to the group conscience of our Fellowship, whilst maintaining the responsibility of our group officers, who are our trusted servants, and one the options could include setting time aside for answering questions directly from the floor during the plenary sessions. Also make a recommendation for future conferences, possibly on a trial basis.**

Terms of Reference No. 7 This will be clarified at Conference and is the remit of the Conference Steering Committee.

- 61. Last year Conference, Committee No. 6 (Question 1), discussed and gave guidance regarding members claiming travelling expenses when visiting prisons for meetings to carry the AA message.**

Tradition 8, longform, states that 'our usual "12 Step" work is never to be paid for'.

Conference Committee No. 4 (Question No. 3), also drew attention to Conference recommendation of 1995 which reads "that the practice of inviting speakers from overseas and paying their expenses is in breach of Traditions 4 & 12".

Would Conference now share their experience and give guidance with regard to members claiming travelling expenses when visiting prisons to attend "AA meetings".

Terms of Reference No. 5 Similar question asked in 2010.

64. Would the Conference steering committee consider contacting questioners (if possible) for further information before rejecting questions due to lack of background material?

Terms of Reference No. 7 Remit of the Conference Steering Committee.

65. Would conference consider recommending the registration of AA groups be trusted to the group conscience of the intergroup concerned, rather than be governed by a central general service office?

Terms of Reference No. 7 Covered by a similar question/topic.

66. In the orange pamphlet “The A.A. Group” is a suggested set of questions which groups can use to take inventory. Question two asks “what more can the group do to carry the message?” Are we as a fellowship doing enough to carry the message or have we forgotten some of the methods non alcoholics used in the early days ?

Please consider the following and make recommendations:

Intention of question / topic. If A.A. produced a product e.g. medal or birthday card, tradition sevens money could be used by groups who choose to participate in celebrating living sober, whilst also raising revenue for A.A..

Terms of Reference No. 7 Referred to GSO.

68. Would Conference investigate the possibility of video conferencing in alternate years as a means to cut costs please?

Terms of Reference No. 5/6 Insufficient background material also similar topic at Conference 2009

69. Would Conference consider GSO informing the Secretaries of Intergroups when GSO receive details of a new AA group in their areas please?

Terms of Reference No. 6 Insufficient background material

70. Would Conference consider that if an AA group decides not to be part of an Intergroup then they should not be listed in AA's "Where to Find"?

Terms of Reference No. 6 Insufficient background material