

Cocaine Anonymous

Petition to Become an Area

1. Reason to become a World Service Conference Approved Area:

C.A.UK is a very large Area consisting of 12 Districts. It is one of the largest Cocaine Anonymous areas in the world, if not the largest. There is the consideration that it [C.A.UK] is 'too big' and has often had to be reactive.

The primary benefit would be direct involvement and focus in local geographical C.A. endeavors and a more direct and specific ability to liaise with our structure at C.A. World Service level. There is a wonderful opportunity for local members to be enthused by the sense of ownership and participation.

When Districts first formed in Cocaine Anonymous UK approx. 12 -13 years ago the passion and focus allowed for much unity at a local level and within the structure. It is possible that such excitement and enthusiasm will allow for a greater effectiveness in service and with our primary purpose. There was also a huge growth period for the Area, and we have witnessed this in other areas who have grown out of C.A.UK, showing percentage growth of at least 36% in the first year.

2. Are you a proposed Area in State, Province or Country that has not be represented at the World Service Conference before?

No – C.A.UK (England and Wales)

3. Proposed Area name:

West Country UK

4. If applicable attached map of regional geographic division of Area as it now exists:

Please see attached map A titled Current C.A.UK Area Boundaries

5. Attach a map and a written description of the proposed division of Area

Please see attached map B titled Current C.A.UK boundaries with proposed West Country Area Boundaries and, Map C Detailed Map of Proposed New Area Boundaries

6. Total population in proposed Area:

Bristol county	728,000
North Somerset	193,000
BANES	211,454
Mendips	112,500
Sedgemoor	119,100
Worcester	100,000
Malvern Hills	74,631
Wychavon	127,340
TOTAL POPULATION (as of 2018)	1,666,025

7. C.A. Population in proposed Area:

Approximately 233 (taken from group reports)

8. Number of C.A. Groups in proposed Area:

24

9. Attach a brief five-year history of C.A. Groups and membership in the proposed Area.

Cocaine Anonymous West Country has had a very fruitful and fulfilling period over the last five years, and this continues today. We have a very well attended District and have good consistency with District office posts being filled.

We have 26 meetings a week, comprised of 24 groups, which are very well attended. In 2019 we had up to 30 meetings a week this drop is a result of Wales growing from our District and forming their own Area. This has been a huge blessing to C.A. as a whole in the spirit of unity and carrying the message of Hope, Faith and Courage. We have been supportive and encouraging as some of us remember the first C.A. meeting around 16 years ago and to see them now take this amazing step has been a joy.

Over the last six years we have put on C.A. West Country conventions every year, with the exception of 2020 due to the unforeseen situation we all found ourselves in, and have at least once a year held tradition and concepts workshops, these have always been received and attended well. We currently have an appointed DSR who has attended C.A. UK Area Service Committee meetings and we have always been able to make a donation to C.A.UK.

We have a very strong H&I committee. It has always done a great job going into prisons, treatment centres and detoxification units. We currently go to 8 facilities a month and search for other opportunities to carry our message of Hope, Faith and Courage, and We're Here and We're Free. We have maintained good relationships with the above.

P.I. is a very passionate committee, always looking for new ways to navigate positive pathways to enlarge the scale of getting Cocaine Anonymous information into our local services.

10. Structure and function of proposed Area:

- a. Proposed Area Service Committee meetings:
Bi-monthly (i.e. 6 times per year) – 90% attendance
- b. Proposed District Service Committee meetings:
There are currently no other Districts aligning with the new Area, therefore all business would be done at the bi-monthly Area Service Meetings. However, if other Districts chose to align, we would have bi-monthly District service meetings – 90% attendance (going on previous District attendance)
- c. No. of DSR's:
In its infancy there would be no need for any DSR's, however, if other Districts chose to align there would be a DSR per 10 meetings in each District. Their activities are in line with the job description in the World Service Manual. Representing the Districts, acting as line of communication, upholding the traditions, and supporting the GSR's.
- d. No. of GSR's:
22, their activities are in line with the job description in the World Service Manual. Representing the Districts, acting as line of communication and upholding the traditions.

11. Distance and time travel time to nearest current Area Service Committee Meeting.

Currently C.A.UK is moving its meetings around the Area – for the West Country to travel to these meetings it can be up to 450 miles with 9 hours travel time for one direction and is a minimum of 50 miles and 1 hour journey time.

12. How would the fellowship benefit by establishing a new Area as opposed to adding more DSR's, creating a new District, or redistricting would accomplish?

We have already completed the redistricting process which enabled service to be completed at a more local level. We have seen an increase in the number of meetings and unity since this change. There is still a geographical barrier to members wishing to be involved in Area service due to the distances that need to be travelled and the combined numbers of members in the Districts. We ensure there are sufficient members to take part in this level of service by the formation of the new Area and there is great enthusiasm from our members to take service at this level.

13. If the proposed Area is in a State, Province or Country which the Fellowship has not been previously established, have you investigated incorporating as a non-profit organisation in order to protect the C.A. name?

We have reviewed the current legalities and we have also discussed our options with other Areas who have formed over the last few years and we will incorporate into a non-profit organisation after the formation of the Area has been approved.

14. If this petition to Become an Area is approved are you prepared to be responsible for all liabilities the Fellowship may incur? Are you prepared to pay all applicable sales taxes and file the necessary State and Federal taxes as required?

Yes, we will continue to act responsibly to ensure the existence and growth of our Fellowship. We will discharge all responsibilities as required under English law.

15. Any further information.

This conversation has been one the proposed new area has been having for some time. In May 2019 the District asked a group of its members to go on a fact-finding exercise about the pro's and cons of forming our own area and the process to do so. This information was then fed back to the GSR's to be discussed so they could make a fully informed decision. Most groups asked the DSR to attend and present the information. We met at the November 2019 DSC and a vote was taken to begin the process of Area formation. From this an Area Steering Committee was formed to look at boundaries, insurances, helpline and so on.

We believe it is vital to keep the spirit of unity with the Areas surrounding us and so as part of this process we have been open and honest with C.A.UK. We have made sure to consult with CAUK, as well as the newly formed neighbouring Wales Area, and the established Central Area when defining our boundaries.

We had originally voted to submit this petition for ratification at the 2020 World Conference, but due to outside issues a new motion was bought to the DSC in March 2020 to delay this petition until the 2021 World Conference.

Included with our petition is the set of minutes detailing our vote, it is worth noting that prior to the vote being taken a discussion had taken place around who would be eligible to vote. As a committee we

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voted that only GSR's would take part in this vote as all committee chairs and other District serving officers had their voice heard in the individual group conscience votes within their home groups, and to place confidence in the group conscience spoken via their GSR into the District conscience.

On March 2021 there was a Regional Agenda Item regarding any new Area petitions where one of our members attended to make the Region aware of the transition we hope to make from a District to and Area, in order for any questions to be asked of us and to become actively involved from our inception.