

ANGELA RICHARDSON MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Good morning,

I am writing to invite leaders and representatives within your organisation to the first Guildford 12 Step Recovery Fair, to be held at Guildford URC Church (83 Portsmouth Road, Guildford, GU2 4BS), from 11:30 – 14:30 on 10th May 2024. The aim of the Recovery Fair is to bring together 12 Step fellowships from across Guildford and our villages and connect them with the service providers and communities that they do so much to support.

Addictions and dependencies blight our communities in Guildford, affecting countless families and causing complex problems for providers of health and social care services, policing and justice, education, and employers. Almost all aspects of local service provision are impacted. Whilst there are many pathways to recovery to be celebrated, this recovery fair will provide insight into 12 Step Recovery. This form of recovery is entirely free to access, is proven to work and can be a vital component of our response as a community.

Many people will be familiar with Alcoholics Anonymous, the 12 Step fellowship for recovery from alcoholism. Less well known is that there are over 30 similar fellowships operating in the UK. These help tens of thousands of people to recover from a whole range of addictions and dependencies such as drugs, gambling, overeating, sex, and emotional or relationship dependencies. They change the lives of the people they support, their families and our whole community.

Seeking help for addiction is a daunting process and due to the anonymous nature of 12 step fellowships we understand that clarity and information is needed for those struggling, their families and local service providers. At this event, we will provide insight, address misconceptions, answer your questions and demonstrate how the programme of 12 step fellowships work.

The fair is being organised by the All-Party Parliamentary Group on 12 Step Recovery and Visible Recovery. We are inviting representatives from local service providers, and we hope to spark conversations about our collective response to addiction and dependencies.

To attend the Guildford 12 Step Recovery Fair, you will need to register your place using the following Eventbrite link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/guildford-12-step-recovery-fair-hosted-by-angela-richardson-mp-tickets-801499575807>

Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

If you feel there are people within your organisation or network that would benefit from attending this event, we welcome their attendance and would be grateful if you could share the Eventbrite link.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Angela Richardson".

Angela Richardson MP

Member of Parliament for Guildford
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