



About APDO

APDO Association of Professional Declutterers and Organisers was formed in 2004 by a group of friends who wanted to make a difference. They were Cassie Tillett (Working Order), and author, Sue Kay (No More Clutter, Hoarder to Order) and Trudy Kelly. Whilst socialising in a London wine bar they began discussing the growing nationwide interest in clutter-free living, recognising it was difficult for people to know where to go to get help; Later that year, APDO's website was launched and the membership began to grow.

Fifteen years later, APDO has become the UK's membership association for decluttering and organising professionals and now has 390 members across the UK and beyond. APDO is a not-for-profit membership body that sets standards, provides professional development and supports the growth of the industry. Each member either runs their own decluttering and organising business or works for such a business.

APDO members

There is no fixed path into this career so our members have backgrounds in

- business & project management
- executive assistants
- marketing & event management
- office & IT systems
- law
- medical, social work & life coaching
- property management
- interior design
- journalism

You name it, we'll probably have someone who's done it!

Consequently, we have a huge wealth of different knowledge and experience, which can shape the nature of the services we each offer and the types of clients we typically work with. Whilst many of us would call ourselves generalists, some have niched to work with extensive physical clutter (clients presenting hoarding behaviours) through to majoring on the aesthetics of a space (interior design, home staging etc). We're also seeing more members now focussing on decluttering the intangibles; offering time management, productivity, study skills coaching etc.

Our member often support client with life transitions and challenges such as

- juggling multiple commitments (overwhelmed parents, busy executives, etc)
- preparing a house move, downsize or home improvements
- adjusting to new circumstances for the elderly or ill
- supporting long-distance loved ones affected by clutter or disorganisation
- implementing new organisational systems within the home or office
- photo organising (physical and digital)
- IT and digital organising to streamline processes

APDO publicity

We publish a newsletter every quarter for those interested in our organisation (currently around 2000 people) alongside the monthly bulletins for our members. We are on social media on the following platforms:





APDO events

APDO hosts two campaign weeks each year: **Spring Clearing Week** (each March) and **NOW National Organising Week** (each November) where we showcase our members respective decluttering and organising expertise and encourage the public to tackle their own home / work projects.

We run our Starting Your Professional Organising Business courses throughout the year with over 500 delegates attending this training since its launch in 2016. APDO also hosts a 2-day annual conference each Spring with over 120 delegates in attendance each day. Due to Covid19, this will be a virtual offering for 2021.

APDO's role

APDO's role is to support its members, as well as raise awareness of the benefits of a clutter-free, organised lifestyle, with an emphasis on the mental health benefits as well as the environmental impact consumerism is having globally on our planet.

Its aims include

1. Connect those seeking help to find a professional organiser local to them using www.findanorganiser.co.uk
2. Educate the general public about the wider benefits of decluttering and living a simpler, more organised way of life.
3. Improve the UK's mental health and wellbeing by addressing the physical, digital and psychological environments that we occupy.
4. Consider the sustainability and environmental impact we all have by encouraging recycling, upcycling, reusing and hiring techniques.
5. Expand available professional training for our members and others interested in learning about subjects relating to the professional organising industry
6. Emphasise the sensitive nature of people's daily battles with hoarding and clutter and help the wider public understand that for many of our clients it's an illness (not a lifestyle choice).
7. Collaborate with synergetic charities, corporations, and organisations that share APDO's ethos and goals.

APDO and the global organising community

APDO became a member of the [IFPOA \(the International Federation of Professional Organizing Associations\)](#) in 2015 connecting the UK's representatives with other professional organiser membership bodies around the world.

Further information

Please contact Katherine Blackler, APDO President on president@apdo.co.uk for press matters or admin@apdo.co.uk for general enquiries.