

CO-OPERATIVES UK

CO-OP CONGRESS

EMPOWERING CO-OPERATION

17–18 June 2022
The Eastside Rooms
Woodcock Street
Birmingham B7 4BL

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The **co-operative**
bank

#COOPCONGRESS





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WELCOME

WELCOME TO CO-OP CONGRESS

"I'm delighted to welcome you here, to Co-op Congress 2022, at the wonderful Eastside Rooms in Birmingham's Knowledge Quarter. It's an ideal setting for this conference which is all about building and sharing knowledge; working together to improve our own collective future.

We talk about creating a fairer economy and with the cost-of-living crisis, the reality of an economy which works against the majority of people is clear to see. People are being seriously hit in the pocket: spiralling petrol costs and energy bills, rising food prices...

It's why this conference is so important and why we've made Congress as accessible as possible. We're live-streaming the main room sessions – all free to watch thanks to our sponsor, The Co-operative Bank. We're also delighted to have so many here in person when we're even seeing music festivals cancelled across the country, simply because people haven't got the disposable income.

Things need to change and some of that change can start here. We've an incredible line-up of speakers covering tech, care, music, the climate emergency, membership and more. Please do get involved; share your ideas; inspire and be inspired.

"It's also important you help enact change yourself, to take your learning back to your co-operative or organisation. We're here to do the same – to take on board your views, your insight, your knowledge and ensure our activities reflect member need as well as the needs of the wider co-op and democratic economy. Let's empower co-operation!"

Rose Marley
CEO
Co-operatives UK

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USEFUL INFORMATION

Conference address: Eastside Rooms,
2 Woodcock Street, Birmingham, B7 4BL.
Telephone: 0121 8206060.

Free Wi-Fi: Connect to Eastside Rooms Wi-Fi
and enter your email address when prompted.

Taxi hire: Local taxi firm is TOA.
Ring: 0121 4278888.

Interactive: Some main room sessions will
involve answering questions/taking part in polls
online. To participate scan the QR code or visit
www.sli.do and type in the code **17180622**
(there's no need to register).

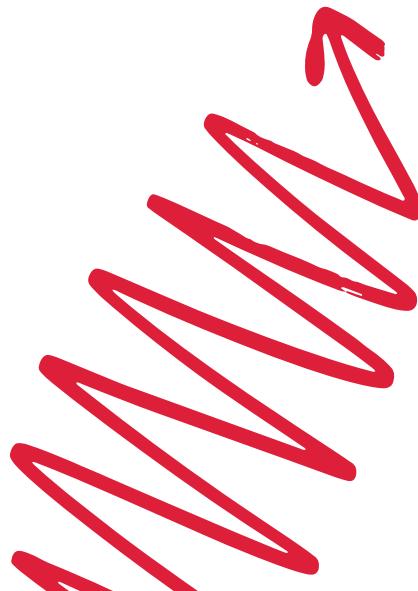


A WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR THE CO-OPERATIVE BANK

"We're proud to be supporting Co-op Congress again this year and we are delighted that an event at the very heart of the movement has been made accessible to so many. It is great to see co-ops of every size and from across all sectors of the UK come together – in Birmingham and online – to make change happen through co-operation."

Nick Slape
Chief Executive Officer
The Co-operative Bank

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bank**



PROGRAMME - FRIDAY

11.00-11.30

**AFFINITY
SUITE 2**

WELCOME TO CO-OP CONGRESS

Rose Marley, CEO, Co-operatives UK
Don Morris, Chair, Co-operatives UK
Maria Cearns, Director – Customer & People, The Co-operative Bank
Andy Street, Mayor of the West Midlands (on screen)

A welcome to Co-op Congress 2022, including a word from conference sponsor, The Co-operative Bank.

11.40-12.40

**AFFINITY
SUITE 2**

MAKING MEMBERSHIP MEANINGFUL

Denise Scott-McDonald, National Members' Council President, Co-op Group
Joe Fortune, General Secretary, Co-operative Party
Rose Marley, CEO, Co-operatives UK
Rebecca Harvey, Executive Editor, Co-op News (moderator)

What does membership of a co-operative or mutual mean in modern society – and how do we harness the incredible potential of members? Our members are our greatest strength, but meaningful engagement isn't always easy. In this session we'll explore how to tap into this extraordinary resource.

11.40-12.40

ASHSTEAD 1

JOINING THE DOTS: HOW CAN TECH ENABLE A STRONGER CO-OPERATIVE ECONOMY?

Catherine Douglas, Managing Director SME, The Co-operative Bank
Debbie Robinson, CEO, Central England Co-operative
Emma Howard, Technical Partner, Open Data Services
Violetta Nafpaktiti, Managing Director, DotCooperation LLC
Ludovica Rogers, Interim Head of Co-operative Business Development, Co-operatives UK (moderator)

Digital has revolutionised all aspects of our lives, from how we do business to how we interact with loved ones. The pandemic accelerated this process, highlighting shortfalls as well as benefits. Tech could play a huge role in transforming and strengthening the co-operative movement, but where do we start? What are the biggest challenges? And how can tech enable us to tackle them?

This workshop will invite provocations from a diverse group of speakers, followed by an open audience discussion. Emerging themes will inform Co-operatives UK's next steps in using tech and digital to build a stronger and more sustainable movement.

11.40-12.40

ASHSTEAD 2

WORKER CO-OP FEDERAL

A dedicated session for worker co-ops to have their say on the creation of a new federal body.

11.40-12.40**ASHSTEAD 3**

WORKING ACROSS NATIONS AND REGIONS ON CO-OP DEVELOPMENT

Tiziana O'Hara, founder member, Co-operative Alternatives

Derek Walker, Chief Executive, Cwmpas

Darah Zahran, Scottish Enterprise (on screen)

Gareth Wright, Membership Officer, Co-operatives UK (moderator)

This session focuses on co-operative development across the nations and regions of the UK. An opportunity to share trends, challenges and discuss what we can do to re-connect and co-ordinate across the UK in terms of supporting a thriving co-op economy.

12.40-13.40

LUNCH IN THE BELMONT SUITE

13.40-14.40

TIME FOR FAIR PLAY IN THE MUSIC INDUSTRY?

**AFFINITY
SUITE 2**

Tom Gray, Chair of the Ivors Academy, Founder #BrokenRecord, Gomez

Paul Pacifico, Associate Professor, Berklee Valencia and artist

Lord Victor Adebowale, Chair of UD and Social Enterprise UK

Terry Tyldesley, music tech consultant and artist

Sarah Pearson, founder of Wasted Youth Music and Juste Entertainment

David Martin, CEO, Featured Artists Coalition

Colin Young, Chartered Accountant and music industry and streaming royalties specialist

Paul Stokes, music journalist (moderator)

One of the most high profile industries currently being challenged over its inequities lies at the centre of the UK's cultural heartbeat – the music industry. Our panel will focus on fairness, looking at everything from digital distribution to social mobility. There's a lot to discuss! We'll also explore what the solutions could be including answers that are already in place via co-operatives. And we'll discuss the potential for one of the most exciting new co-operatives to be launched this century.

13.40-14.40**ASHSTEAD 1**

FUNDING GROWTH FOR WORKER AND MULTI-STAKEHOLDER CO-OPS

Campbell McDonald, Chief Executive, Ownership at Work

An opportunity to discuss and to help form a new £100m fund for worker and multi-stakeholder co-ops: 'Time to Share'. Campbell will outline the new fund and opportunity it presents. Participants will have the opportunity to share the challenges they face around financing co-operative growth and the key attributes required of a new fund.

This funding is suited to worker co-ops and/or multi-stakeholder co-ops that recognise workers as members and are either actively looking to grow or considering future options. This discussion is also suited to those stakeholders exploring opportunities and ways to fund or match-fund co-ops.



13.40-14.40**ASHSTEAD 2**

THE CO-OPERATIVE DIFFERENCE IN CARE

Councillor Joyce Welsh, South Tyneside Borough Council

Cheryl Barrott, Change AGEnts and Co-operatives UK Board Member

Dr Justin Varney, Director of Public Health, Birmingham City Council

Nicola Huckerby, Operations and Communications Lead, Co-operative Councils' Innovation Network

With 120 members and supporters, the Co-operative Councils' Innovation Network (CCIN) is the fastest-growing network in local government. The health and social care crisis brought the need to develop creative co-operative solutions to the forefront. In 2020/21, members were asked to bid for funding to deliver Policy Prototypes. Using the learning from 15 projects, The Co-operative Difference in Care report asks what difference the co-operative approach makes to the provision of care, support and preventative services in communities. The vast variety of work undertaken by the projects, places a spotlight on how the co-operative principles can be applied to create new and effective ways of working, to help support communities and become part of a solution to the care crisis. This report highlights the significant amount of learning that can be taken from the projects supported by the CCIN, the global and local contexts, along with academic research.

13.40-14.40**ASHSTEAD 3**

WHAT WOULD AN IDEAL SOCIAL PURPOSE BUSINESS SUPPORT ECO-SYSTEM LOOK LIKE?

Ewan Muirhead, Associate consultant, Participate Projects

Join our workshop based on a solution-focused group coaching format, which has been using with our Empowering Places community business hub 'catalyst' organisations and their delivery partners. It will enable delegates to imagine what an ideal social purpose business support eco-system could look like in their area, and will also give practical ideas to take back to their co-operative or organisation.

13.40-14.40**MEETING
ROOM 4**

REGIONAL IMPACT: CO-OPERATIVE WORKING – A PROFILE OF ACTIVITY IN EAST AND WEST MIDLANDS

Jenny de Villiers, Secretary and Treasurer, Co-operatives East Midlands

This session is led by the regional co-operative councils for East and West Midlands and is an opportunity to discover more about activities taking place across the regions. Come along to learn about the local impact co-operatives are making and also to meet and network with co-operatives from the Midlands.

14.40-15.00

REFRESHMENTS IN THE BELMONT SUITE

15.00-16.00**AFFINITY
SUITE 2**

FUTURE OF THE DEMOCRATIC ECONOMY

Jess Phillips, MP for Birmingham Yardley

Paul McNamee, UK Editor, The Big Issue

Amrou Motawa, member of Edinburgh Student Housing Co-op

Éva Goudouneix, Community Development Manager, Repowering London

Rose Marley, CEO, Co-operatives UK

How can co-operatives – and the wider democratic economy – help transform society into a fairer place for all? Co-operative businesses give people an opportunity to have a stake and say in where they live, work, consume and are entertained. Our YouGov poll at the beginning of the year identified key concerns for younger people including climate change, housing, jobs, data ownership and well-being. All these areas have co-operative solutions. Yet despite the ability of co-operatives to empower and transform lives, they form a relatively small proportion of the UK economy.

With Jess Phillips MP and Editor of the Big Issue, Paul McNamee, we will explore how to amplify the co-operative message and grow the democratic economy. We will also hear from young people involved with co-operatives who will share their experiences and show the impact of co-operatives in their lives.

16.00-16.20**AFFINITY
SUITE 2**

CLOSING KEYNOTE

Shirine Khoury-Haq, Interim CEO, Co-op Group

Lord Victor Adebowale, Director, Co-op Group and Chair, Social Enterprise UK

The first opportunity for the co-operative sector to hear directly from new Interim CEO of Co-op Group, Shirine Khoury-Haq, with an introduction from Lord Victor Adebowale.

16.20-17.00

REFRESHMENTS IN THE BELMONT SUITE

17.00-18.30**AFFINITY
SUITE 2**

CO-OPERATIVES UK AGM

Our annual general meeting (AGM) is a fantastic opportunity to ask the questions that matter to you and your co-op. Join us to help shape our collective future and vote on resolutions. Visit uk.coop/agm to view and download our AGM papers.

18.30-23.00**AFFINITY
SUITE 1**

CONGRESS SUPPER

Preet Kaur Gill, MP for Birmingham, Edgbaston and Shadow Cabinet Minister for International Development

Debbie Robinson, CEO, Central England Co-operative

Rose Marley, CEO, Co-operatives UK

From the incredible work to support female workers in India, to empowering farmers in Malawi, you'll hear about international co-operation – while enjoying buffet-style food from around the world. Discover more about the International Co-operative Working Group and how Central England Co-operative is playing a significant role in an element of the movement's overseas work. We will also hear from special guest, Preet Kaur Gill MP. Congress Supper includes a drinks reception from 6.30pm.

The co-operative

Central England Co-operative

This year we've launched our Central England Co-operative Green spaces initiative committing £350,000 to create areas for the community to enjoy and wildlife to flourish.

To find out more visit www.centralengland.coop



CO-OPERATIVE INTERNATIONAL TRADING DEVELOPMENT FUND

We're launching an innovative Co-operative International Trading Development Fund to support farmer and producer co-ops around the world.



Our collective goal, in partnership with Co-op College, is to develop sustainable initiatives that strengthen community livelihoods, particularly in the agricultural sector, to bring the poorest out of poverty.

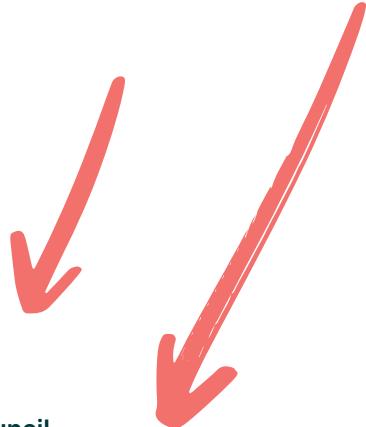
The first project our Fund will support is in Malawi, a country in south-eastern Africa. Most growers in Malawi are small-holders dependent on subsistence farming to make a living; producing crops such as rice, coffee and ground nuts which are vulnerable to changing weather patterns, especially drought.

From 2nd July (International Day of Co-operatives) a portion of the sales from our Fairtrade range and some exciting, newly sourced products connected to Malawi, will go into the Fund. Shop these products to generate change!



Find out more online at
www.centralengland.coop/malawi

PROGRAMME - SATURDAY



09.30-09.40

**AFFINITY
SUITE 2**

WELCOME TO DAY TWO

**Rose Marley, CEO, Co-operatives UK
Councillor Ian Ward, Leader of Birmingham City Council**

An introduction to day two of Co-op Congress alongside insight into co-operative support and activity in the Birmingham area.

09.40-09.55

**AFFINITY
SUITE 2**

OWN OUR VENUES

**Mark Davyd, CEO and founder, Music Venue Trust
John Dawson, Head of Market Development and Investment – Community Shares, Co-operatives UK**

Gig venues up and down the country look set to guarantee live music for years to come, thanks to an exciting community share offer launched in May. Hear from CEO and Founder of Music Venue Trust about their ambitious campaign for the live music community to own, protect and improve UK grassroots music venues across the UK.

09.55-10.45

**AFFINITY
SUITE 2**

CARE AND CO-OPS: WHAT'S THE LOCAL OPPORTUNITY

**Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester
Cheryl Barrott, Fair Care
Rose Marley, CEO, Co-operatives UK (moderator)**

With the Independent Review of Children's Social Care, released in May 2022, recommending that children's services be provided by about 20 regional care co-operatives and the imminent launch of the 'Fair Care' mark, co-operative working is leading innovations in care. From looked after children to co-operative GPs, NHS commissioning to co-operative tech solutions, is now the time to embed the co-operative difference into the care sector through devolved powers?

Join the discussion with our panel, followed by hustings from leading care co-operatives covering what is needed to empower greater co-operation in health and social care.

10.45-11.00

REFRESHMENTS IN THE BELMONT SUITE

11.00-12.00

**AFFINITY
SUITE 2**

HOW ARE LOCAL LEADERS USING CO-OPERATIVES TO GENERATE WEALTH

**Tracy Brabin, Mayor of West Yorkshire
Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester
John Robb, music journalist (moderator)**

We will explore what regional leaders can and are doing to embed co-operatives into local initiatives. Featuring Tracy Brabin, Mayor of West Yorkshire and Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester, in conversation with John Robb.

11.00-12.00**ASHSTEAD 1**

WOMEN'S VOICE THROUGH CO-OPERATIVE HISTORY

Liz McIvor, Trust Manager, Co-operative Heritage Trust

Women have played a central role through co-operative history. From the first female member to the numerous achievements of the Co-operative Women's Guild – leading to the influential positions held by women in today's co-operative movement. This session will highlight these historic moments and how and why it's important to capture women's voices now so we have a rich history for the archive.

11.00-12.00**ASHSTEAD 2**

AN INTRODUCTION TO CO-OPERATIVES

John Atherton, Head of Membership, Co-operatives UK

This session is an introduction to all things co-op: what are they; where did they come from; what are the different types; and how many do we have? These questions and more will be answered.

11.00-12.00**ASHSTEAD 3**

TACKLING THE CAPITAL CONUNDRUM – WHOSE AFRAID OF CAPITAL GAINS?

Tony Greenham, Executive Director, Mutual Banks Association**Cliff Mills, consultant, Anthony Collins Solicitors****Rebecca Harvey, Executive Editor, Co-op News**

Why has the number of co-operatives remained broadly the same for years? And what can be done to change the status quo – particularly in the finance sector?

Capital intensive co-operative start-ups are hard to fund, especially in financial services where capital is highly regulated. To address these barriers, the Mutual Banks Association has developed a new co-operative structure under the Companies Act 2006 that does three things: legally embed a common good corporate purpose; create a multi-stakeholder ownership structure with active participatory governance; and create a form of co-operative equity capital that can deliver fair returns to early stage high risk investors (while remaining aligned with co-operative principles). This area is still a work in progress – so come and join the discussion.

11.00-12.00**MEETING
ROOM 4**

SHARE THE BENEFITS: COMMUNITY SHARES AND TRANSFORMING LIVES

Mark Davyd, CEO and Founder, Music Venue Trust**Éva Goudouneix, Community Development Manager, Repowering London****Dave Boyle, Director, The Community Shares Company****John Dawson, Head of Market Development and Investment - Community Shares, Co-operatives UK**

£200 million has been raised using community shares to support, save and set up hundreds of vital businesses – with an impressive 92% still trading! How can you and your community take advantage of this unique form of finance. You'll hear from experts and community shares practitioners in this informative and engaging session. Together we can achieve great things!

12.00-13.00

LUNCH IN THE BELMONT SUITE

13.00-14.00**AFFINITY
SUITE 2**

THE CLIMATE AND ECOLOGY BILL – A CALL OUT FOR CO-OPS

Dr George McGavin, BBC presenter and Zero Hour campaign Ambassador

Dr Amy McDonnell, Director, Zero Hour

Deborah Darlington, Director of Brand, Marketing and Communications, The Co-operative Bank

Barry Clavin, Senior Ethics & Sustainability Manager, Co-op Group

Amiera Sawas, Director of Programmes and Research, Climate Outreach (moderator)

Zero Hour is the campaign for the Climate and Ecology Bill – a plan for a new UK law that addresses the full extent of the climate and nature crisis in line with the most up-to-date science. The Bill is the only proposed legislation before the UK Parliament that ensures a comprehensive and joined-up approach to the emergency. Hear from Dr George McGavin (BBC, Discovery Channel), campaigners Zero Hour whose partnership with The Co-operative Bank has galvanised support from businesses and organisations across the UK, and from Co-op Group, about why the bill is needed, why they are backing the bill and how you can get on board.

13.00-14.00**ASHSTEAD 1**

YOUNG PEOPLE AS CO-OPERATORS AND ACTIVISTS

Debs McCahon, CEO, Woodcraft Folk

For nearly 100 years Woodcraft Folk has empowered young people to explore and live co-operative values; taking action in communities locally and globally to create a fairer world. Come along to this workshop to find out how empowerment is being achieved. Woodcraft Folk's Debs McCahon will share examples of youth led social action; the impact of a unique co-operative approach to youth work; and tools for creating leadership in young people.

13.00-14.00**ASHSTEAD 2**

MARKETING THE MARQUE

Siôn Whellens, Client Services Director, Calverts

Violetta Nafpaktiti, Managing Director, DotCooperation LLC

More and more co-operatives are adopting the global co-operative identity marque and awareness continues to grow. This session will focus on the future of the marque and plans in the UK to more closely link the marque to high co-operative standards.

13.00-14.00**ASHSTEAD 3**

A CO-OPERATIVE STAKE IN THE CO-OPERATIVE BANK

Shaun Fensom, Customer Union for Ethical Banking (Save Our Bank)

The Customer Union for Ethical Banking has shown how an organised group of customers can wield real influence on the content of The Co-operative Bank's Ethical Policy. When troubles hit the bank in 2013 – forcing its effective privatisation – the Save Our Bank campaign attracted national media attention and over 10,000 supporters. It had two aims: keep the bank to its word on ethics, and work for an eventual return to co-operative ownership.

With the bank now back in profit, the Customer Union, with 1,300 paid up members, is now starting to start work on its second aim: building a co-operative ownership stake to consolidate the real influence customers have already achieved. This session will explore the scale of the task for the world's first customer union – and what can be achieved by working together.

13.00-14.00**MEETING
ROOM 4**

FCA GUIDANCE DISCUSSION

Ian Adderley, Technical Specialist, Financial Conduct Authority (FCA)

The FCA is consulting on its guidance for all societies registered under the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014. Representatives from all organisations registered with the FCA are invited to come and meet Ian Adderley, Technical Specialist in the FCA's Mutuals Team; to provide suggestions for improvements and additions and help to shape the future of the guidance for societies.

14.00-14.20

REFRESHMENTS IN THE BELMONT SUITE

14.20-15.20**AFFINITY
SUITE 2**

CO-OPS AND CLIMATE ACTION

Mike Pickering, Head of Sustainability, The Midcounties Co-operative**Michaela Cryar, Head of Product and Origination, Younity****Jonathan Atkinson, co-founder, Carbon Co-op****John Robb, music journalist (moderator)**

Two thirds of co-operatives are taking action to reduce their carbon emissions and of those taking action, one in five has net zero targets. Our largest retail and worker co-operatives are leading the way, but we are under no illusions about the scale of the challenge ahead. Hear from leading co-operatives on what they are doing to tackle climate change and how you can make a difference. We know collective action, among businesses and within communities, is critical to achieving a fast, effective and socially just transition to net zero – but we need your help.

14.20-15.20**ASHSTEAD 1**

WORKING TOGETHER TO GROW THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT

Robert Kelly, CEO, ABCUL**James Alcock, Chief Executive, Plunkett Foundation****Blase Lambert, Chief Officer, Confederation of Co-operative Housing****Robin Fieth, Chief Executive, The Building Societies Association**

There are around 7,000 co-ops in the UK and this figure has remained broadly the same for years. Our panel of leaders within the sector from housing, credit unions, and community co-ops will share the challenges in their sectors, but also the opportunities particularly if we work together to make a step change in the numbers of co-ops created and their scale.

14.20-15.20**ASHSTEAD 2**

HOLYOAKE HOUSE CONSULTATION

Marianne Heaslip, Architect and Associate Principal, URBED

Could we do something exciting and unique with Holyoake House – the home of Co-operatives UK in Manchester – which celebrates its heritage and also makes the Grade II listed building more accessible to the public? Commissioned to undertake a consultation on the future of Holyoake House, award-winning design and research consultancy co-operative, URBED, will present their findings and conclusions, with an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback.



15.30-16.00

**AFFINITY
SUITE 2**

CO-OPERATIVE IDENTITY

Ian Adderley, Technical Specialist, Financial Conduct Authority (FCA)
Sarah Alldred, Head of International Partnerships, The Co-operative College
Emma Laycock, Member Services Lead, Co-operatives UK

Co-operatives all over the world agree to a common identity; sharing the same definition, values and principles. The original 'Rochdale Principles' were set down in 1844 and now overseen by the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA), have been updated over the year (in the 1930s, 60s and 90s in particular). The ICA will carry out a formal consultation in the future. This session is the first phase in gathering views from UK co-operatives on the current co-operative identity, values and principles. Are they fit for the future? Come along and take part in this discussion.

16.00-16.10

**AFFINITY
SUITE 2**

CONFERENCE CLOSE

Rose Marley, CEO, Co-operatives UK

Closing remarks from Co-operatives UK's CEO, Rose Marley.

SCOOT OVER TO YOUR CO-OP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS' EXHIBITION STAND

The Midcounties Co-operative has launched an E-Moped employee benefit scheme to help co-operatives and their workers, members and colleagues gain access to an affordable, green transport solution.

In partnership with Silence, the E-Moped offer is financed by a Co-op Credit Union loan and paid back through salary deduction.

As well as reducing carbon footprint, the offer also includes £150 cashback on each purchase. Visit Your Co-op Business Solutions' exhibition stand for more information.





**This Co-op Fortnight, 20 June-3 July,
we celebrate the diversity of co-operatives
and difference they make to people's lives.**

Download graphics and messaging to share on social media to celebrate why co-operatives are so important.

Go to **www.uk.coop/fortnight**
to help unwrap co-ops

#UNWRAP COOPS

EXHIBITORS

THE CO-OPERATIVE BANK – EVENT SPONSOR

The Co-operative Bank is proud to be sponsoring Co-op Congress again this year. 2022 marks the Bank's 150th year of ethical banking and the launch of its latest Ethical Policy. In 1992, the Bank took a pioneering step to become the first UK bank to have a customer-led Ethical Policy, which is still unique to this day. As a business with deep and historic roots in the co-operative movement, it has enshrined co-operative values into how it operates. It is committed to championing the movement through its funding of The Hive, a co-operative business support programme, and by offering free banking for co-operative businesses through its Community Directplus current account. www.co-operativebank.co.uk

The co-operative bank

CO-OPERATIVE & COMMUNITY FINANCE

Co-operative and Community Finance (CCF) is the lender for social purpose, lending to ethical businesses for nearly 50 years. Along with its partner fund the Co-op Loan Fund, CCF helps co-ops and communities to recover, rebuild and grow by providing flexible and competitive loan finance from £10,000-150,000. CCF offers fair, supportive finance tailored to meet the needs of all co-operative enterprises and community businesses that are democratically controlled by their members. The finance can be used for a range of purposes, be that purchasing a property or equipment; refinancing existing debt; or business growth or working capital. CCF supports all sectors including community shops and pubs, community buildings, housing co-operatives, sports clubs, food and farming, renewable energy schemes, tech co-ops – and many more. www.coopfinance.coop



CO-OPERATIVE COUNCILS' INNOVATION NETWORK

As the fastest growing network in local government, CCIN believes that the unprecedented challenges facing the public sector and local communities mean that traditional models of top-down governance and economic growth are no longer fit for purpose. Its members want to reclaim the traditions of community action, community engagement, and civic empowerment that can transform communities. This approach will help deliver radical and innovative programmes designed, led, and delivered in partnership with communities and other sector partners, maximising the social dividend they bring. Co-operative councils are driving global public policy aligned to the CCIN's Statement of Values and Principles. www.councils.coop



CO-OP NEWS

Co-op News is a magazine, news website and communications co-operative that connects, champions and challenges the global co-op movement through objective journalism, open debate and co-operative vision and design.
www.thenews.coop



HEART OF ENGLAND CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY

The Heart of England Co-operative Society was originally formed in 1832 by nine local ribbon weavers who set up the Lockhurst Lane Co-operative Society in the Parish of Foleshill. The Society has 36 food stores and 16 funeral homes and ploughs its profits back into helping hundreds of local charities right across its trading region with donations as well as new and improving stores. Through its Helping Heart Award scheme donations are made to charities and community groups throughout the year and since its inception in 2000 the Society had pledged more than £1.2 million into the local community. In 2000, the Coventry & East Mercia Co-operative Society changed its name to Heart of England Co-operative Society reflecting more accurately the Society's location in the heart of the country. The Society will celebrate 190 years this year. www.heartofengland.coop



CO-OPERATIVE PARTY

The Co-operative Party is the party of the UK's co-operative movement, committed to building a society where power and wealth are shared. Democratic, public ownership of services and utilities we all rely on. Tackling the housing crisis through co-operative housing. Businesses that are owned by their customers and workers giving back to communities. Fans having a say in their sports club. Credit unions as an alternative to rip-off pay-day lenders. Shops owned by their customers that give back to the community. Get involved at:
www.party.coop



ONE FAMILY

As a friendly society, OneFamily provide savings, investments, lifetime mortgages and insurance to empower modern families through their financial lives. OneFamily is a mutual friendly society that has been providing award winning services for over 45 years. Specialising in partnerships, it currently administers more than two million policies on behalf of 39 partners across a range of flexible award-winning products.
www.onefamily.com



SPECIALIST RISK INSURANCE SOLUTIONS

Specialist Risk Insurance Solutions is proud to have worked with co-operatives for over 10 years and is the recommended insurance broker for Co-op Group's business insurance. It takes a strategic approach to arranging insurance solutions by tailoring its approach to each business that it works with. This means the unique risks that businesses face are identified, enabling the perfect solution to be crafted for your business.

www.srinsurancesolutions.co.uk



YOUR CO-OP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

Part of The Midcounties Co-operative, Your Co-op Business Solutions is dedicated to providing a modern and ethical communication service for your growing business, allowing you to stay connected to your communities and true to your values. It provides sustainable solutions that help grow your business and brand and serve your communities, whilst being cost-effective. From broadband and mobile to electric vehicles and cloud-first communications, Your Co-op Business Solutions can help you do it all. Adapting to the latest workplace trends and employee behaviours is essential and it provides you with all the tools you need to boost performance and delivery, attract and retain the very best talent and make a difference to the world around you; because people really are at the heart of your business. Contact 01608 434 070 or business.solutions@midcounties.coop

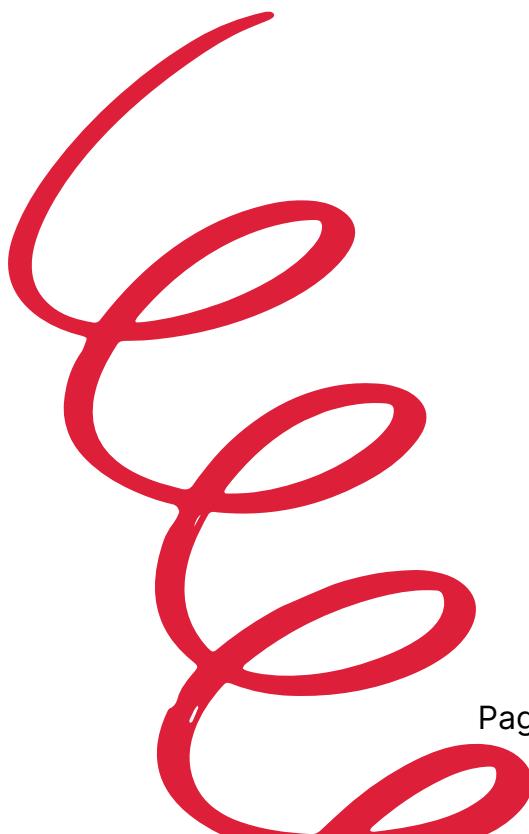


WOODCRAFT FOLK

For nearly 100 years Woodcraft Folk has delivered co-operative education to generations of children and young people across the UK. Woodcraft Folk supports young people to engage in local youth groups, campaigns, outdoor adventures, camps and youth led social action. Current activity includes: rebuilding local groups post-Covid; outdoor play opportunities; Green Influencers social action projects in partnership with Co-op Academy schools; the PeaceCommunicators peer education project; school-based Life Skills workshops; Kids Got Rights international child-led campaign; Common Ground international youth camp; and #DreamBigAtHome. The Woodcraft Folk was awarded SME Winner in 2020 and 2021 for Most Dedicated Youth Engagement & Support Organisation and Children's Rights Champions. www.woodcraft.org.uk



Woodcraft Folk
Education for Social Change since 1925



EVENTS YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS

Unfound LIVE! Pitch event

Thursday 7 July, 6-7pm, online

Join the UnFound LIVE! pitch event as we celebrate the accomplishments of the nine ethical digital platforms graduating from the 2022 UnFound Accelerator for platform co-ops – and vote for your favourite pitch! Book for free at: www.unfound.coop – in partnership with The Co-operative Bank.

National Youth Summit

Monday 11 July, The Studio Manchester, 12-7pm

The National Youth Summit aims to showcase radical solutions for youth empowerment, through the principles of co-operation. We're inviting young people to attend this event at The Studio, Manchester on Monday 11 July – to have a stake, have a say, and deliver real impact for your community. The National Youth Summit 2022 is sponsored by The Co-operative Bank and in partnership with Co-op Foundation and The Co-operative College. Book your free place at: www.uk.coop/youthsummit

FREE ADVICE CONSULTATION

Our team of experts at Co-operatives UK offer FREE consultations to discuss advice needs. Simply email advice@uk.coop to book your call. Whether it's governance, HR, finance or membership, our experts can help.



CO-OPERATIVES UK

EMPOWERING CO-OPERATION

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