

NEW
ECONOMICS
FOUNDATION



**CO-OPERATIVES
UNLEASHED**

DOUBLING THE SIZE OF THE
UK'S CO-OPERATIVE SECTOR

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- Commissioned by the Co-operative Party to undertake an independent analysis of UK Co-operative sector and a vision for substantial growth
- Combined a quantitative analysis of the sector with a review of relevant literature and a series of short case studies.
- We also conducted interviews with people from different parts of the sector and more than 70 co-operators completed an online survey

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- The sector is determined and steadfast but the UK economy is a hostile environment for many cooperative forms of enterprise.
- Doubling the sector will therefore not happen by accident or by force of will, but requires a cohesive policy framework.
- A policy framework capable of doubling the size of the will probably achieve a

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1. A new legal framework for co-operatives.
2. Finance that serves the co-operative agenda.
3. Deepening co-operative capabilities through a Co-operative Development Agency.
4. Transforming business ownership.
5. Accelerating community wealth building initiatives.

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