



# Co-operative Councils

## Innovation Network

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES 1400 hours – 5<sup>th</sup> September 2017 Oldham Civic Centre**

#### **Welcome and Introductions:**

The Chair of the CCIN, Cllr Sharon Taylor, Leader of Stevenage Borough Council, welcomed delegates to the 2017 AGM.

Cllr Taylor began the meeting by introducing the Executive Oversight Committee members present: Cllr Ian Kay (Sunderland City Council); Cllr Richard Farnell (Rochdale Council); Cllr Peter Bradbury (Cardiff Council) and Cllr Barbara Brownridge (Oldham Council). And the Values & Principles Board members present: Cllr Dave Jones (Newcastle under Lyme Council); Nick Matthews (Co-operatives UK), Simon Parkinson (Co-operative College).

#### **Apologies:**

From Executive Oversight Committee Members: Cllr Stephen Powers (Newcastle City Council); Cllr Kevin Dukes (Bassetlaw Council); Cllr Tony Newman (Croydon Council); Cllr Chris Penberthy (Independent Chair of Values & Principles Board).

#### **Minutes of the Last AGM – 16 November 2016**

The minutes of the previous meeting held in Cardiff (included in the papers) were agreed as a true and accurate record and there were no matters arising.

#### **Review of the Year & Plans for 2016/17**

Cllr Taylor referenced that the Review was included in the AGM papers and the following was noted:

- delivery of the Network has been moved in-house, securing the CCIN's future as a member-driven organisation able to capitalise on the strong foundation built over the last five years. The CCIN has also exhibited at more events than in previous years as we seek to raise our profile and grow the Network.
- Members were invited to visit the Network's website [www.councils.coop](http://www.councils.coop) to access publications, presentations and other resources to share best practice and co-operative ideals. All members were encouraged to submit Case Studies for the website and articles for the monthly eNewsletter to [comms@councils.coop](mailto:comms@councils.coop).
- To fully capture the CCIN's co-operative journey, Cllr Taylor outlined the EOC's proposal to produce a history of the CCIN. This history would help potential Network members understand the Network's back story, as well as helping the wider public understand the

motivation and ambitions of the co-operative councils' movement.

- The launch of the Associate, Affiliate and Supporter Membership schemes was also highlighted, allowing smaller councils, minority administrations, opposition groups, devolved administrations and local and regional government within Europe to join as Associate Members. Non-governmental organisations, corporations and individuals wishing to show their support and engage in the processes of developing innovative Co-operative Councils are welcomed as Affiliate Members and Supporters.
  - The Network now had 20 Full Members with Royal and Borough of Greenwich and South Tyneside joining since the last meeting.
  - New Associate Members were announced as: Staffordshire County Council Labour and Co-operative Group and London Borough of Hillingdon Labour Group
  - New Affiliate Members were announced as: c.co – CIPFA's consultancy service, Co-operatives UK, Tin Smart Social, Governance International, Branding.coop, Public Service Transformation Academy (PSTA), RedQuadrant
- A review of the eight funded Policy Labs and Policy Prototypes was also presented. Policy Labs which were bigger collaborative pieces of work that CCIN members worked on together, and eligible for up to £10,000 of funding, the following were delivered:
  - [Beyond Asset Transfer](#) – Newcastle City Council
  - [Co-operative Performance Framework](#) – Oldham Council
  - [Co-operative Peer Challenge](#) – Plymouth City Council
  - [Housing Commission](#) – Croydon Council. The final report will be launched later in the year.
  - [From Co-operative Councils to Co-operative Places](#) – Collaborate & Oldham Council
- Policy Prototypes which were smaller projects delivered in a locality on behalf of the Network and eligible for up to £1,500 of funding:
  - [Welcoming and helping refugees and asylum seekers \(Culture School\)](#) – Cardiff Council
  - [Closing the Education Gap](#) – The City of Edinburgh Council
  - [Telford Mental Health Forum](#) – Telford & Wrekin Council
- At its meeting on 15 November 2016, the EOC agreed to support two Policy Labs for 2017, and that £10,000 – £15,000 of funding be available for each. The two areas of work are:
  - Health and Social Care
  - Impact of Devolution, Combined Authorities, Metro Mayors and Police and Crime Commissioners on the Co-operative Council agenda

Cllr Taylor invited Members to contribute to the two Policy Labs and to direct expressions of interest to [comms@councils.coop](mailto:comms@councils.coop) so that we could begin this work.

- Consultancy Framework - Cllr Taylor introduced the CCIN's multi-supplier Framework, allowing all CCIN Members and Associate Members (and the CCIN itself) to select from a specialist, prescribed pool of organisations to help in developing policy, implementing prototypes and building capacity, both in communities and inside the organisation. Further details on the Framework and how to use it can be [found on our website](#). Representatives of the Framework were exhibiting at the conference as part of the 'Meet the Buyer' event and Members were invited to take the opportunity to speak with them.

### **Any Other Business**

No other business was recorded.