



SOCIAL CARE

Power to Change working with Kirklees Council

Supporting the development of cooperative care

Kirklees Council and Power to Change have supported the development of a cooperative approach to social care provision. Cooperative Care Colne Valley (CCCV) is a multi-stakeholder co-operative and community business established to provide both high-quality domiciliary care for older and disabled people in the Colne Valley, and fair and proper terms and conditions of employment for staff. Focussing solely on the Colne Valley, CCCV aims to provide high quality services at a fair price to local people while involving the people it cares for and their families in making decisions about their care. As a co-operative, it will ensure that all members have a stake and a say in how the service is run. It will also ensure staff are highly trained, motivated and that their conditions of employment are significantly better than those generally offered in this sector, ensuring that the co-operative structure will also provide opportunities to contribute to decision making and for career progression.

A key aim is to develop an innovative operational model that integrates social care aimed at tackling isolation delivered by community and family volunteers, working alongside the paid staff members. CCCV intends to raise the required capital through a community share offer, enabling members of the community to have a stake in the business on a one member one vote basis.

Kirklees Council has supported the project from an early stage by providing start up grants and help with staffing issues. The authority clearly understands the need for bottom up community, place-based solutions to the current crisis in social care and a positive partnership has developed.

Power to Change, which supports community businesses, has provided early stage capacity building support, enabling it to develop its legal structure and prepare for the community share offer. Power to Change has also invested in supporting CCCV to gather learning as it develops and starts to deliver care and support to support other places to set up their own community-led and owned care provision.

For further information contact:

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