



Co-operative Councils

Innovation Network

EXECUTIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

0900 - 0930 hours – Wednesday, 2nd October 2019

Rochdale Town Hall

Present:

Cllr Sharon Taylor OBE	Stevenage Borough Council (Chair)
Cllr Chris Penberthy	Plymouth City Council
Cllr Paul Stewart	Sunderland City Council
Cllr Clive Fraser	Croydon Council (representing Cllr Tony Newman)
Jonathan Bland	SBI/E3M
Cllr Peter Bradbury	Cardiff Council (from item 3)
Cllr Clare Penny-Evans	Newcastle City Council (from item 3)
Cllr Dave Jones	Staffordshire Labour Group (from item 3)
Cllr Martin Judd	Oldham Council (from item 3)

In Attendance

Nicola Huckerby	CCIN (minutes)
Giles Perritt	Plymouth City Council
Charlotte Burnham	Sunderland City Council
Fiona Gibson	Cardiff Council (from item 3)

Apologies

Simon Parkinson	Co-operative College
Cllr Tony Newman	Croydon Council
Jonathan Downs	Oldham Council

Absent

Cllr Liam O'Rourke	Rochdale Borough Council (Vice Chair)
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1. Welcome, introductions and apologies

Cllr Taylor welcomed everyone to the meeting. Cllr Taylor began by thanking Rochdale MB Council for hosting the CCIN Annual Conference in what was known around the world as the home of the pioneering co-operative movement. The location was even more fitting as the Principles established by the Rochdale Pioneers 175 years ago were the 'foundation stone' of everything the Network does.

Cllr Taylor said she felt that the CCIN was probably the fastest growing Network in Local Government, where the innovations being delivered and recorded across the country were now being picked up by political parties; and the work of the Network was now percolating through.

Apologies had been received from Cllr Tony Newman, who was represented by Cllr Clive Fraser, Jonathan Downs and Simon Parkinson. Cllr Taylor asked that our best wishes be passed on to Simon for a speedy recovery.

2. Minutes of last meeting and Matters arising

The minutes of the meeting held in Cardiff on 26 June were agreed as an accurate record. There were no matters arising that were not on the agenda.

3. Membership Report

The membership report was presented by Nicola Huckerby. Ten new applications to join the Network had been received since the last meeting.

The latest membership figures for the Network are:

- Full Members – 28 members
- Associate Members – 12 members
- Affiliate Members – 20 members
- Supporters - 2

Since the last meeting three new applications had been received for Full Council Membership; these were approved:

- Kirklees Council
- North Hertfordshire District Council
- Tameside Council

Two new applications had been received for Associate Membership; these were approved:

- Medway Labour & Co-op Group
- York Labour Group

Four new applications had been received for Affiliate Membership; these were approved:

- [4OC](#) – support organisational change and optimise performance. They have been on the Consultancy Framework since 2016
- [Ideas Alliance](#) – recommended by the Co-operative College, they are a social enterprise aimed at promoting the benefits of collaborative, strengths-based and community driven approaches.
- [Marks Out Of Tenancy](#) – an online rating system which provides reviews and ratings for landlords, letting agents, rental properties and neighbourhoods.
- [Trueman Change](#) – provides a range of services to support your organisation through change, from coaching and mentoring staff, insight and diagnostics, through to full implementation.

One new Supporter Application had been received; this was approved:

- Tom Mewies

4. Budget report

The Annual Budget report was presented by Nicola Huckerby on behalf of Jonathan Downs, Oldham Council as the Accountable Body. The reported income for 2019/20 was £176k, a healthy reserve of £25k was being maintained and the balance was £15.5k. It was acknowledged that if the CCIN continues to grow at its current rate we will be left with a lot of money for Legacy and Development Work, a budget that currently stood at £25k. This funding needs to be allocated to projects, this could be Policy Labs, Prototypes, more events, or other forms of development work.

The report was welcomed, and Cllr Taylor thanked Oldham Council for their work in developing and maintaining the budget process. Members agreed that the Network's Action focus should be maintained and that a full discussion on where to allocate the budget would be held at the next meeting.

Suggestions from the meeting included:

- The CCIN Induction programme
- Additional CCIN conferences
- A resource to pull together the 2020 Policy Prototypes on Health and Social Care

5. CCIN Strategy Action Plan 2019 – 2020

CLlr Taylor explained that the Strategy was central to our ambition to ensure that cooperative ideas are at the forefront of policy making and policy thinking.

Updates:

4.1 Induction Programme

- A proposal on a CCIN Induction Programme had been drafted by the Co-operative College, it was proposing a phased process with a Pre-Christmas Phase 1 Launch 1.
- The Programme was currently with V&P Members for comments and would be circulated to EOC for consideration once the V&P comments had been included. Action: Nicola Huckerby.

4.2 CCIN online Forum

- The EOC and V&P Board now had password access to the online forum which would allow Members to co-operative and collaborate directly.
- Access for the Officer Network would be delivered next, with all Members having access by the end of 2019. Action: Nicola Huckerby

4.3 New Work Programmes

- The themes for the 2020/21 Policy Prototypes had been announced via a [blog on Health and Social Care funded projects](#) by Councillor Chris Penberthy. Cllrs Penberthy and Dave Jones would be launching the call for projects at the CCIN Conference.

6. Policy Labs 2020/1

Cllr Penberthy reported that the Values & Principles Board had met in London on 11 September and had commissioned an 'External Researcher' to complete the Asset Transfer Policy Lab report developed by colleagues at Newcastle City Council. Cllr Clare Penny-Evans was presenting Newcastle City Council's finding at the Annual Conference.

Cllr Penberthy reported on the Work Programmes of the Policy Labs that were being funded by the Network in 2019/20. Cllr Taylor thanked Cllr Penberthy and the Values and Principles Board for their monitoring of these projects.

The request for Members to start thinking about Health and Social Care Policy Prototypes would be launched at the Annual Conference by Cllrs Penberthy and Jones. Cllr Penberthy explained that he thought the Network could expect to support 30/40 projects of £1500/£2000 each from across the Network which would be delivered in 2020. These individual projects would be launched early in 2021 as the Networks response to the challenges faced by local government in the Health & Social Care Sector. It was hoped that bids would be submitted by Town & Parish Councils, Political Groups as well as full Members of the Network. It was agreed that a definition of what we mean by 'Health and Social Care' would be included in the call for bids when circulated to Members. Action: Cllr Chris Penberthy and Cllr Dave Jones.

7. Review of the Year 2018/9

We have continued to grow the CCIN's profile and showcase the valuable contribution the Network's Members are making to municipal policy development. Nicola Huckerby took the meeting through some of the highlights of the 2018/9 year:

- A three-fold increase in Membership over the last three years
- Contested elections for roles on our Executive Oversight Committee and Values & Principles Board
- Competitive bids for our 2019 Policy Lab Funding
- Case Studies on the www.Councils.coop website have increased from 155 to 215 giving our members recognition with new audiences
- Bumper issues of our bi-Annual Case Studies Pack
- 75 delegates at our Annual Conference in Croydon with speakers from all levels of Government
- Strategy Session in Bristol to develop a CCIN Action Plan
- Exhibited and participated in over 20 conferences, events and meetings

- South Tyneside Council won the Co-operative Council of the Year Award

Cllr Peter Bradbury and Cllr Sharon Taylor expressed their thanks to both Jonathan Downs and Nicola Huckerby for the enormous progress that the Network had made in terms of profile and recognition over the last three years.

8. Any Other Business

8.1 Cllr Penberthy reported that the Values and Principles Board:

- Was working on a 'complaints process' which would be included in its Terms of Reference
- Had amended its Terms of Reference to reduce the number of Affiliate Member places on the V&P Board from five to three
- Would now hold include annual elections to ensure continuity of work programme. Those members elected in January 2019 would serve a two-year term. Further elections would be held at the end of 2019 to fill current vacancies which were:
 - Two Associate Members
 - Two Affiliate Members

8.2 Cllr Bradbury report on Cardiff Council's involved with MUV Victoria.

The meeting closed at 0930 hours. Members were invited for a Group photograph.

07.10.19/NH