



VALUES & PRINCIPLES BOARD

MINUTES

1100 hours – 1300 hours Friday, 21 June 2019

Park Lane Room, Mercure Hotel, Portland Street, Manchester M1 4PH

Present:

CLlr Chris Penberthy	Plymouth City Council (Chair)
Simon Parkinson	Co-operative College (Vice Chair)
CLlr Peter Curling	Hillingdon Labour & Co-operative Group
CLlr Ken Dalton	Halewood Town Council
Emma Hoddinott	Co-operative Party
Matt Dykes	TUC
Michael Curnow	Peopletoo
Nick Matthews	Co-operatives UK (from item 4)

In attendance:

Nicola Huckerby	CCIN (minutes)
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Apologies:

CLlr Iain Malcolm	South Tyneside Council
CLlr Jack Deakin	North Warwickshire Labour Group
Rebecca Harvey	Co-operative News

1. Welcome and introductions

Councillor Penberthy welcomed everyone to the meeting. Those present introduced themselves. It was noted that CLlr Iain Malcolm - Leader of South Tyneside Council, had joined the V&P, and that CLlr Adam Farnell had been replaced by CLlr Jack Deakin at North Warwickshire Labour Group.

2. Minutes of last meeting and Matters arising

These were agreed as an accurate record.

3. 2019 – 20 Strategic Action Plan

A copy of the draft Action Plan had been circulated for information.

4. Values and Principles Work Programme

This had been agreed at the last meeting. The following timetable was agreed:

4.1 There were currently three member vacancies on the Board.

4.1.1 It was agreed to follow up with Knowsley MB Council. Action: NH

4.1.2 It was agreed to develop an application process for Affiliate Members who wish to put themselves forward for the CCIN Governance. We already had application processes for Affiliate and Associate Members. This new process would ask applicants to explain why they wish to join the Governance and state their organisations commitment to the [ICA Statement of Values & Principles](#) through their own internal processes. Action: CLlr Penberthy /NH to draft for adoption before the next meeting.

4.2 Members were asked to review the [Values and Principles Board Terms of Reference](#) to include outlining the Complaints Process. All comments to SP/NH by 8 July.

4.3 Health and Social Care Policy Lab for delivery by the Network – this item was deferred for consideration at the end of the meeting (Item 7 – below).

5. Beyond Asset Transfer – presentation on Policy Lab (Round 1 - 2016)

For the benefit of new Members, Cllr Penberthy gave an overview of action and progress to date on this Policy Lab. The Board agreed that this was an enormously different report to the one that they had received at the last meeting, and thanked Phil Hunter for the work that he had personally committed to the project.

The Board agreed that there were lessons for the Network from this process and that an ‘escape clause’ should be added to the Policy Lab process, should councils find themselves in a position where they were unable to complete a project, in this way they could be recompensed for the outputs achieved rather than final delivery.

It was agreed that Newcastle CC be asked to:

- 5.1 Include a synopsis of Asset Management policies from other Councils in the Draft report
- 5.2 Add the contacts at councils and organisations who were involved in the production of the report and referenced in Case Studies, in order to encourage collaboration and co-operation
- 5.3 Attribute the ‘Responses’ mentioned throughout the report
- 5.4 Include a template Communications Strategy which could form part of the final toolkit
- 5.5 Invite the Leader of Newcastle to speak at the report launch
- 5.6 Release the report to the CCIN for completion as per the original Policy Lab application. This would include:
 - 5.6.1 The appointment of an ‘External Researcher’ who would adapt the work from NCC and engage with Locality and Power to Change to ensure that it was intellectually sound
 - 5.6.2 Delivery of a session to present the findings and publish the final paper “What works in Asset Transfer”. Action NH
 - 5.6.3 Minute from 14/2/19: There was also an opportunity to issue a National Policy Statement from this work in order to advise others
 - 5.6.4 Minute from 14/2/19: The report should clearly outline the ‘Co-operative Innovation’ found and needed to differ from a ‘Locality’ report.

6. Policy Lab 2019-20 Work Programme updates

The CCIN had agreed to fund three Policy Labs in 2019-20, one in 2019-21 and to support a Policy Lab funded by Affiliate Members Peopletoo.

It was agreed that the Five Policy Labs would all be monitored in the same way. The V&P role is to ensure that the CCIN’s Values and Principles are embedded in the Policy Labs that it has agreed to fund. Once the Work Programmes are signed-off by the V&P Board, the CCIN will pay 50% (£5k) to the Lead Council, with the remaining 50% (£5k) being paid to the Lead Council on satisfactory completion of the project.

The Work Programmes for three Policy Labs were considered:

- 5.1 Co-operative Approaches to Sustainable Food – Lead: Oldham Council
 - 5.1.1 Work Programme agreed – 50% funding approved. NH to request PO number. Oldham asked to:
 - Circulate the final spec to V&P in July
 - Include reference to the SDGs and the Coop Party’s Food Justice Campaign
 - Provide additional information on the names/dates of the conference/events at which they plan to present their findings
- 5.2 Co-operatives Unleashed: As seen from the Grassroots – Lead: Plymouth City Council
 - 5.2.1 Work Programme agreed – 50% funding approved. NH to request PO number. Plymouth asked to:
 - Be more specific in the sectors that the report will address (Objective h)

- Review the timescales for delivery
- Review budget and include an allocation for adding pages/Toolkit to the CCIN website
- Ensure final report explains how a Council, as an economic actor, can develop the local economy
- Provide Case Studies/Calls for evidence in the monthly CCIN Newsletter – as well as contacting Officer Leads directly

5.3 Cities of Service – Lead: Plymouth City Council

5.3.1 Work Programme agreed – 50% funding approved. NH to request PO number. Plymouth asked to:

- Revise the delivery timetable
- Identify any specific objectives around learning from US cities working with cooperatives
- Review budget and include an allocation for print
- Review Attendee costs for Affiliate/Associate Members and Prospective Members including a Day Rate fee

5.4 Co-operative Neighbourhood: Living our Values through the way that we work with our Communities – Stevenage Borough Council

5.4.1 A Steering Group comprising members from North Hertfordshire District Council, Sunderland City Council, Staffordshire County Council Labour & Co-op Group had been formed. Their Work Programme would be presented to the next meeting.

7. Health and Social Care

Cllr Penberthy explained that the Network had sought bids for Health and Social Care Policy Labs in 2017 but none had been forthcoming as the task was deemed too large for any Council to undertake. The Strategy Session in Bristol earlier in the year had agreed that the Network should not lose sight of this area of work and the V&P Board had subsequently agreed to scope out potential projects with a view to these being delivered by the Network. Several potential Policy Prototypes were identified:

- 7.1 Social Care aspect of transport – Community Transport (proposed by EH)
- 7.2 Childcare/nurseries – why are some Councils offloading these services whilst large consumer co-ops are expanding their services (proposed by EH)
- 7.3 Increase of Worker coops in the Care Sector vis a vis NESTA (proposed by NM)
- 7.4 What are the service benefits of member engagement in domiciliary care? (proposed by MD)
- 7.5 Extra Care Housing (proposed at the Strategy Day by Cllr Dave Shields, Southampton)
- 7.6 How service users are pooling budgets to purchase care (proposed by SP)

It was agreed that these ideas be shared in the form of a blog post from Cllr Penberthy for inclusion in the CCIN Newsletter.

8. Date and Venue of next meeting

The next V&P Board would be held on Wednesday 11 September from 1400 – 1600 hours at Congress House, London and hosted by Matt Dykes.