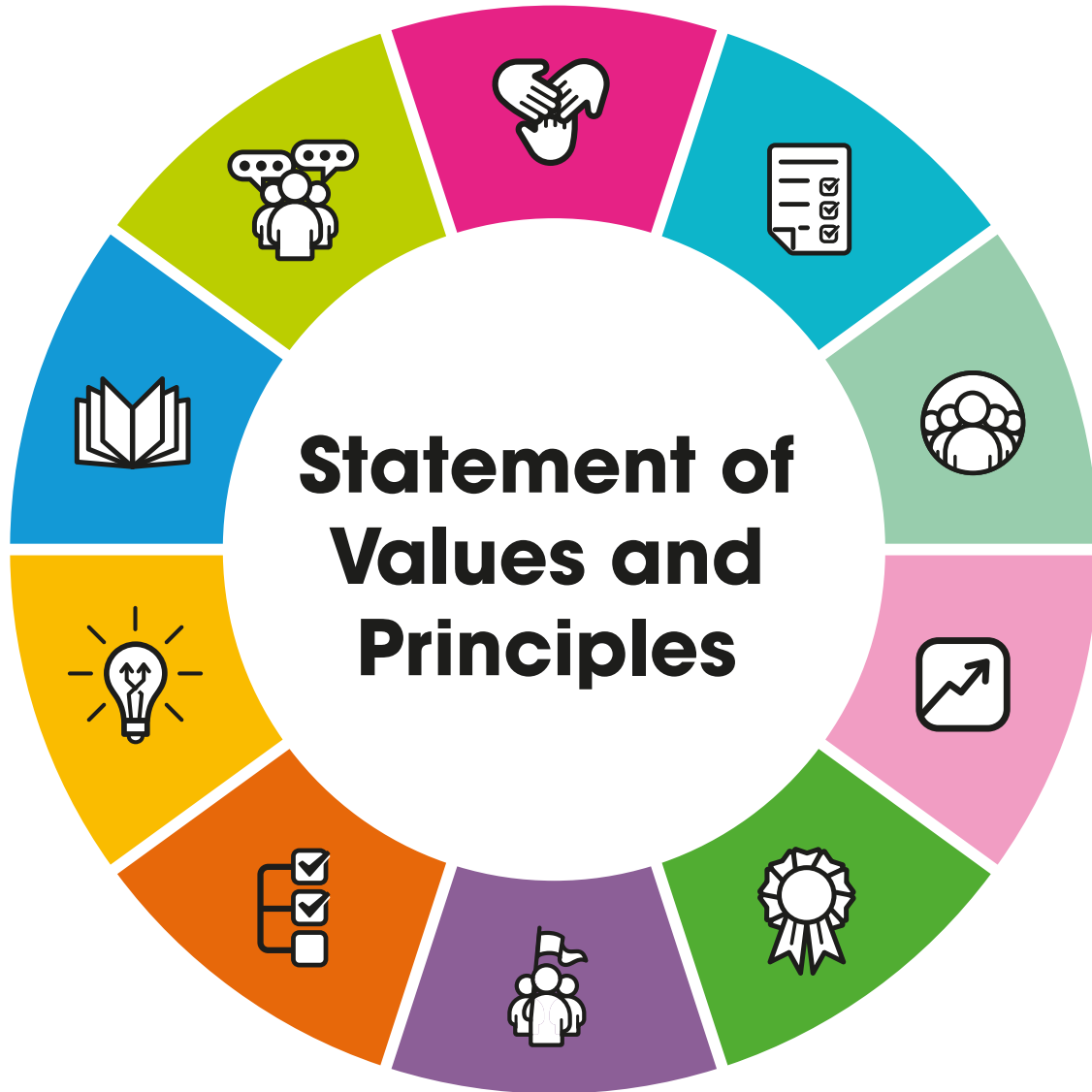




Co-operative Councils

Innovation Network



-  Social Partnership
-  Democratic Engagement
-  Co-production
-  Enterprise and social economy
-  Maximising social value
-  Community leadership and a new role for councillors
-  New models of meeting priority needs
-  Innovation
-  Learning
-  Walking the talk

Introduction

The Co-operative Councils' Innovation Network is a Local Government Association Special Interest Group. Members of the Network are local authorities committed to reforming the way we work through building an equal partnership with local people, based on the values and principles of the International Co-operative Alliance. As a Network we strive to ensure that our member councils uphold and strengthen co-operative values and principles. Our membership approval and self-assessment process reflects this commitment.

Co-operative Councils' Innovation Network members believe that the unprecedented challenges facing the public sector and local communities mean that traditional models of top down governance and economic growth are no longer fit for purpose.

We agree that we urgently need to create a new approach, and that the founding traditions of the co-operative movement – collective action and co-operation, empowerment and enterprise – offer a foundation for fresh and innovative solutions which can be built on to tackle the challenges of today.

Although drawing on the traditions of the past, much of this remains uncharted territory for local government. Members of the Co-operative Councils' Innovation Network are committed to helping each other translate co-operative principles into solutions that work for our communities and places.

Our Values are what we believe in

Whilst not a registered co-operative, the Co-operative Councils' Innovation Network has adopted the Co-operative Values developed by the International Co-operative Alliance.

Co-operatives are based on the values of:

- self-help.
- self-responsibility.
- democracy.
- equality.
- equity.
- solidarity.

In the tradition of their founders, co-operative members believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others.

Our Principles guide the way we and our members put our values into action

The Co-operative Councils' Innovation Network endorses the principles of the International Co-operative Alliance:

- voluntary and open membership.
- democratic member control.
- member economic participation.
- autonomy and independence.
- education, training and information.
- co-operation among co-operatives.
- concern for community.

In acknowledging that Councils are not in themselves registered co-operatives, we and our members have developed principles that have grown from those of the International Co-operative Alliance and are relevant within the context of local government.

The CCIN has developed ten icons to illustrate these Principles. These icons and their descriptions appear on pages 4, 5 and 6 of this document.

The icons should be used to demonstrate how Co-operative Councils are putting our co-operative principles into practice, demonstrating the 'cooperative difference' in the work that they are doing. Councils and organisations who receive CCIN funding to undertake Policy Labs and Policy Prototypes are asked to adopt these icons to show the 'co-operative difference' from this project work.

Member Councils can adopt this document within their own organisations and add their own logos.

If you would like any help with this, please contact comms@councils.coop.



Social Partnership

We will strengthen the co-operative partnership between citizens, communities, enterprises and Councils, based on a shared sense of responsibility for wellbeing and mutual benefit.



Democratic Engagement

We will support the active engagement of the full range of residents in decision making and priority setting.



Co-production

We will develop systems that enable citizens to be equal partners in designing and commissioning public services and in determining the use of public resources.



Enterprise and social economy

We will promote community-based approaches to economic development that focus on supporting the creation of jobs, social enterprises and other businesses and providing an environment for co-operative and mutual enterprises to thrive.



Maximising social value

We will support the development of a framework and criteria for social value, giving substance to the concept and supporting Councils with the tools to ensure better local social and economic outcomes.



Community leadership and a new role for councillors

We will explore ways for councils to act as a platform for helping the community to contribute to local outcomes, and to re-think the role of councillors as community connectors, brokers and leaders.



New models of meeting priority needs

In exploring new ways of meeting the priority needs of our communities we will encourage models, such as co-operatives and mutuals, which give greater influence and voice to staff and users. in designing and commissioning public services and in determining the use of public resources.



Innovation

We will embrace innovation in how we work with local communities to drive positive change.



Learning

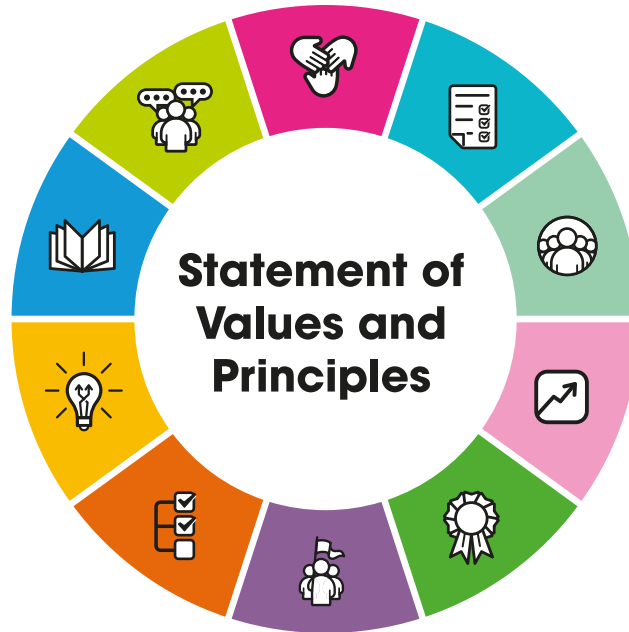
We will capture and 'expand' the experience and learning from individual projects and approaches in order to encourage broader application of co-operative principles within individual member Councils and across the Network.



Walking the talk

As a membership organisation we will make this statement of our principles operational by:

- Co-operation among members: Our members work together to help each other implement our values, sharing experiences and learning.
- Openness of membership: Full, Associate and Affiliate Membership is open to any qualifying Council, organisation or individual who shares our values and is committed to putting them into action.
- Co-production of the Network's work: Members help shape the Network's work programme and the content of events and written products.
- Action-focused: The network is a vehicle for helping councils translate co-operative values and principles into policy and practice.
- Membership-based: The network is majority funded by modest membership subscriptions from its member Councils, Associates and Affiliates.
- Non-party-political: Members share the belief that working co-operatively within and across communities holds the key to tackling today's challenges.



Colour Palette



Magenta

CMYK 00 93 00 00
HEX C41E7F



Teal

CMYK 100 30 00 00
HEX 74B8CA



Mint

CMYK 45 00 40 00
HEX A8CEAF



Pink

CMYK 00 50 00 00
HEX E09EBA



Green

CMYK 70 00 100 00
HEX 6BB240



Purple

CMYK 67 71 00 00
HEX 815B8E



Orange

CMYK 00 58 100 00
HEX CA7228



Yellow

CMYK 00 28 100 00
HEX E6C31F



Blue

CMYK 78 23 00 00
HEX 6798D1



Lime

CMYK 35 00 100 00
HEX B3D135



To find out more about the CCIN Statement of Values and Principles and to request the icons in other formats please contact – comms@councils.coop