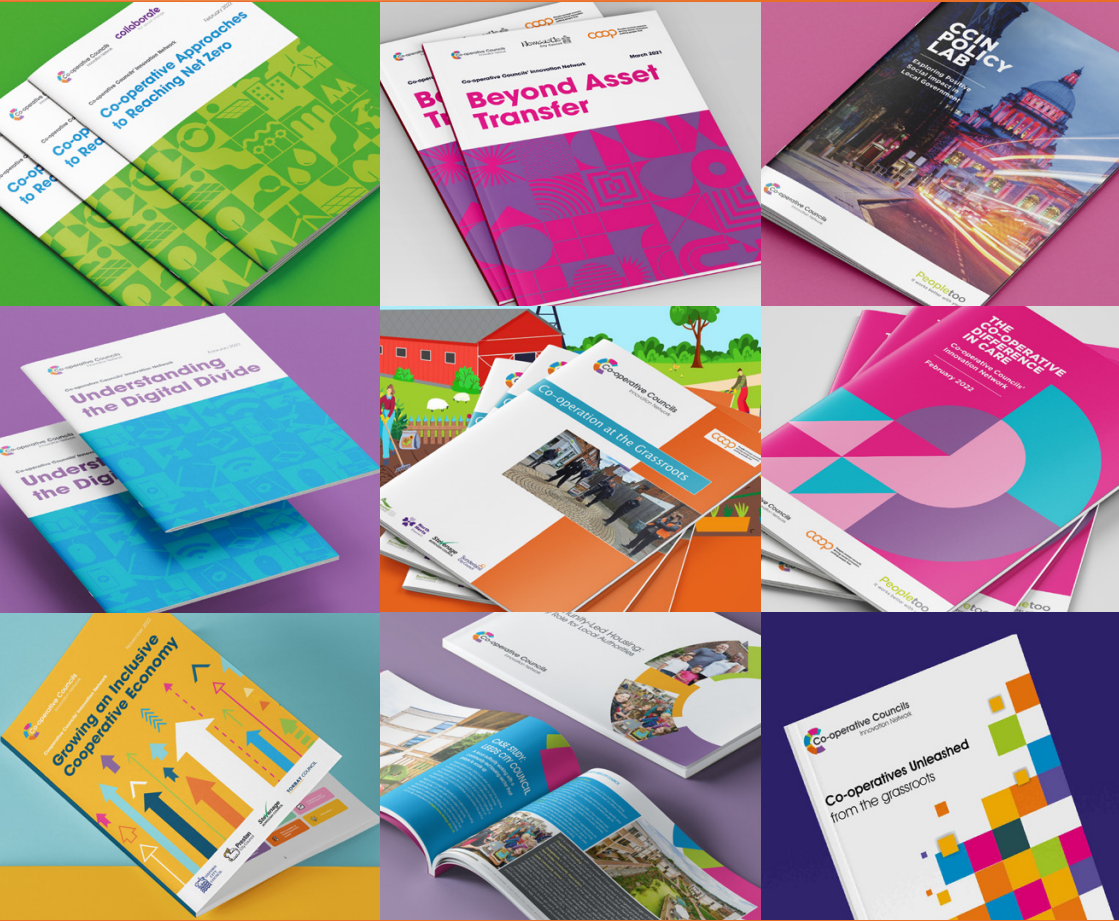




# Co-operative Councils

Innovation Network



Introduction and our funded projects - 2023





# Review of the Year 2021/22

As the Network grew to 100 members, we look at what was achieved

Download: [bit.ly/ccinReview2022](https://bit.ly/ccinReview2022)

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driving social innovation  
putting people first

# Introduction



Councillor Louise Gittins  
Chair of the Co-operative Councils'  
Innovation Network  
Leader of Cheshire West & Chester Council

Established in 2012, our Network was the brainchild of Steve Reed OBE, MP (now our Honorary President), who, together with Baroness Sharon Taylor and Jim McMahon OBE, MP, turned the idea into reality. The Network now comprises over 120 councils, organisations and supporters from across the UK and is the fastest-growing non-party network in local government.

Our members believe that the unprecedented challenges facing the public sector and local communities mean that traditional top-down governance models and economic growth are no longer fit for purpose. They want to reclaim the traditions of community action, community engagement, and civic empowerment that can transform communities. This approach will help deliver radical and innovative programmes designed, led, and delivered in partnership with communities and other sector partners, maximising the social dividend they bring. It has also always been the purpose of the Network to share our developing good practice and support one another in our cooperative aims and values.

Cooperative enterprises play a significant role in driving our economy, showing resilience in tough economic times by creating jobs, adapting to social change, and continuing growth and success.

Each year CCIN Members are encouraged to suggest projects where they can work with other members to find cooperative policy solutions to local government challenges. This publication introduces those projects.

Find out more about the process here: [councils.coop/funded-projects](https://councils.coop/funded-projects)





# Solutions to the crisis in care

A spotlight on how cooperative principles can create better ways of working in the care sector

Download: [bit.ly/CCIN-care](https://bit.ly/CCIN-care)

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# Tackling digital poverty

Closing the divide between those who can confidently and conveniently go online ... and those who cannot

Download: [bit.ly/CCIN-digital](https://bit.ly/CCIN-digital)



# Growing an Inclusive Cooperative Economy

Supporting community wealth building and social value procurement through mapping the local economy to enable cooperative growth

Download: [bit.ly/CCIN-inclusive](https://bit.ly/CCIN-inclusive)



# Co-operation at the Grassroots

Councils work at a localised level with their residents as co-producers of local communities and neighbourhoods

Download: [bit.ly/CCIN-coop-grassroots](http://bit.ly/CCIN-coop-grassroots)



## What works in community asset transfer?

What are the barriers?

What makes them successful?

Download: [bit.ly/CCIN-Asset-Transfer](https://bit.ly/CCIN-Asset-Transfer)





# Making local economies work for communities

The value of Councils using a place-based approach to undertake community economic development planning

Download: [bit.ly/CCIN-comm-econ-devt-plans](https://bit.ly/CCIN-comm-econ-devt-plans)

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# CCIN Statement of Values and Principles



## Our values are what we believe in

Whilst not a registered cooperative, the Co-operative Councils' Innovation Network has adopted the Cooperative **Values** developed by the International Cooperative Alliance:

Cooperatives are based on the values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity, and 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 Cooperative Alliance:

- Voluntary and open membership
- Democratic member control
- Member economic participation
- Autonomy and independence

- Education, training, and information
- Co-operation among cooperatives; and concern for community

In acknowledging that Councils are not in themselves registered cooperatives, we and our members have developed Principles that have grown from those of the International Cooperative Alliance and are relevant within the context of local government.



Social Partnership



Maximising social value



Walking the talk



Community leadership and a new role for councillors



Democratic Engagement



New models of meeting priority needs



Co-production



Innovation



Enterprise and social economy



Learning

The icons are used to indicate how Co-operative Councils are putting our Cooperative 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 'cooperative difference' from this policy work.



# Response. Recovery. Resilience.

Co-operative Council learning through Covid-19

Download: [bit.ly/CCIN-Covid](https://bit.ly/CCIN-Covid)



# A challenge shared locally and globally

How are Co-operative Councils working towards Net Zero?  
How are they using an effective place-based approach?

Download: [bit.ly/CCIN-Net-Zero](https://bit.ly/CCIN-Net-Zero)



## A practical guide for councils to help and grow **community businesses**

Download: [bit.ly/CCIN-unleashed](https://bit.ly/CCIN-unleashed)

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# Community-Led Housing:

a Key Role for Local Authorities

Download: [bit.ly/CCIN-housing](https://bit.ly/CCIN-housing)

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# Building resilient neighbourhoods

62 case studies illustrating some of the many ways that Co-operative Councils are working with local people

Over 400 case studies at: [councils.coop/case-studies](https://councils.coop/case-studies)





# CCIN Policy Lab

Practical examples and analysis of new ways to deliver social value across the UK

Download: [bit.ly/CCIN-Social-Impact](https://bit.ly/CCIN-Social-Impact)

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# Growing the Co-op Economy

Local councils are preparing detailed plans to emerge from the impact of COVID-19 and the cost-of-living crisis which now engulfs us. One of the critical areas that they are considering is how to restart the local economy and minimise the impact of the recession on their local communities.

Being a Co-operative Council is something to be proud of. It demonstrates a genuine commitment to cooperative innovation, best practices, and the communities we serve. Collaboration is at the heart of our approach.

The CCIN actively supports initiatives to grow the co-op economy. There are two key themes:

- Community Wealth Building, and
- Cooperative Placemaking

To support these key themes, we have developed a training programme with the Co-operative College for councillors and officers to help explain the concepts.

Find out more: [bit.ly/CCIN-grow](https://bit.ly/CCIN-grow)



# Meet us in 2023

**11 - 12 February** - Labour Local Government Conference, Nottingham

**17 - 19 February** - Scottish Labour Conference, Edinburgh

**3 March** - National Association of Local Councils Conference, London

**11 - 12 March** - Welsh Labour Conference, Llandudno

**19 - 20 May** - Stir to Action Urban Playground, Manchester

**4 - 6 July** - LGA Conference and Exhibition, Bournemouth

**23 - 26 September** - Liberal Democrat Party Conference, Bournemouth

**8 - 11 October** - Labour Party Conference, Liverpool



# Join us today

Find out more about the UK local authorities who are driving global public sector policy development & best practice with a common belief in the cooperative values and principles

 @coopcouncils

 @coopinnovation

 [comms@councils.coop](mailto:comms@councils.coop)

Join us today at [councils.coop](https://councils.coop)