

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**MINUTES**  
**1230 hours – Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

**Online**

**1. Welcome**

The Chair of the CCIN, Councillor Sharon Taylor OBE, Leader of Stevenage Borough Council, welcomed delegates to the 2020 AGM.

**Present**

There were 33 representatives present from the following Member organisations:

Billingham Town Council	Oldham Council
Cardiff Council	Plymouth City Council
Cheshire West and Chester Council	Rochdale Borough Council
Croydon Council	South Tyneside Council
Co-operative College	Stevenage Borough Council
Co-operative Futures	Sunderland City Council
Co-operatives UK	Torbay Council
E3M	Winsford Town Council
Glasgow City Council	Workers Educational Association
Halewood Town Council	

**Apologies**

Cllr Sue Woodward – Burntwood Town Council

**2. Minutes of the Last AGM 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019**

The minutes of the previous meeting held in Rochdale were agreed as a true and accurate record and there were no matters arising.

**3. Review of the Year 2019-20**

Councillor Taylor reported that the year had been one of two halves – Before Covid and After Covid and that throughout this the Network continues to grow and find better ways of working with communities against a backdrop of great financial constraint.

She began by thanking members of the Executive Oversight Committee and Values & Principles Board for the time they gave in supporting the work of the Network.

Cllr Taylor ran through the highlights from the 2019 – 20 Annual Review, reporting that we have had a phenomenal year as we have continued to be “(probably) the fastest growing network in local government”, including:

- Membership increase by 350% over last three years
- the Network now comprised 33 Full Members Councils representing a population of 8.8m people and a controllable budget of £14bn, with 17 Associate and 27 Affiliate Members
- Launch of our Dynamic Purchasing System
- Funding of 14 Policy Prototypes in Health & Social Care
- 257 Case Studies on our website & bumper edition of the Case Studies Pack
- Events including the Lib Dem Party Conference
- Launched Co-ops Unleashed report
- Ran a conference promoting Cities of Service model of social action
- Launched our Induction Programme produced by the Co-operative College
- Launched an Action Learning Set from Covid-19 working with the Co-operative Press

Councillor Taylor gave thanks, on behalf of the Network, to the work undertaken by Jonathan Downs, at Oldham Council (CCIN Accountable Body) for his work on the finances and to Nicola Huckerby for her continued dedication in driving the growth of the Network and supporting all our Members. Special thanks were given to the tech team at the Co-operative College: Chris Meadows, Andy Mallinson and Chloe Hardman who delivered all of the technology enabling us to have a successful three-day annual eConference.

#### **4. Budget report 2020/21**

Jonathan Downs representing the Accountable Body, Oldham Council, presented the Budget for the current year 2020/1. Oldham Council manage the CCIN Budget and provide legal and procurement support.

The CCIN’s financial year runs from 1 August – 31 July with membership fees collected between September and October. The Network now generates £192,828 in fees from its 76 Members. There was also a carry forward of £64,327 giving a total income of £257,155. Total expenditure in the past year was £129,860. Expenditure in the coming year was estimated to be in the region of £163k.

#### **5. Launch of the 2021 funding round**

Cllr Taylor launched the Call for Policy Labs and Policy Prototypes in our next funding round for 2021 projects. We are again seeking innovative values and principles-based approaches that contribute to co-operative development and livelihoods for both Labs and Policy Prototypes.

We’ve allocated £95k to fund these projects, and this year we will also be limiting the number of projects that any one council can lead on, to one project per organisation. We are therefore recommending that members ‘buddy up’ with others if they wish to be involved in multiple projects.

For Policy Labs we are having an ‘Open Call’ to all Members on the theme of ‘Building Back Greener’ for economic and societal Recovery. Some of the ideas for potential Policy Labs are:

- Identifying the key barriers to developing the co-operative economy

- Connecting Coop development and enterprise agencies to councils
- Supporting the work of Mutual Aid Groups post Covid-19
- Tackling Digital Poverty and the Digital Divide to help job search
- Green Recovery, Carbon Reduction and Climate Change
- Phase 2 Action Learning project: Capturing the co-operative council 'crisis response'
- Opportunities linked to Students / Universities / Co-op Start Up (and role/impact in Cities) on an inclusive economy agenda
- Training in the Co-operative Values & Principles for Opposition Councillors

For Policy Prototypes we are asking Members to submit ideas in the area of 'Children and Young People's Services'.

It was envisaged that the Network would support eight Policy Labs at up to £10k each and ten Policy Prototypes at £1500 each in 2021. The closing date for applications is Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

## 6. Report back from Values & Principles Board

Cllr Chris Penberthy, Chair of the V&P Board reported back on the work of the Board during the past year. He explained that the role of the Board was to support the Executive Oversight Committee by helping to ensure that the co-operative values and principles are ingrained in everything we do from the outset.

As well representation from Full, Associate and Affiliate Membership there are also five dedicated seats for representatives of the Co-operative Movement along with a place for the TUC.

The V&P played a key role acting as a critical friend to councils undertaking project work and helping to scope out the delivery. There were currently Policy Labs & Prototypes reporting from 2017, 18, 19 and 20.

During the year the V&P Board reviewed all of the applications from suppliers to join the Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS). The V&P Board has been involved in preparing the Briefs to procure suppliers from the DPS to complete a Policy Lab on Asset Management. Another DPS exercise has begun to engage an organisation to pull together all of the Policy Prototypes on health and social care from 2020 into a 'Co-operative Difference in Care' report that we can launch at the LGA Conference in 2021.

We have sought to further engage our Associate and Affiliate Members in the Network by creating WhatsApp Groups for different types of members and providing space in the Conference Programme for Member Specific meet-up sessions.

## 7. Elections for EOC and V&P for 2020/22

Jonathan Downs explained that we would be inviting Members to Self-Nominate and/or nominate candidates for places on the EOC, and that nominations would close on 30 October.

There are six - eight places available for Leaders and Cabinet Members. There is one place each available for Associate and Affiliate Members. If places are contested that each category of member will vote for their representatives.

Once the elections have closed, we will go out to Members again for vacancies on the V&P Board. The vacancies we will be recruiting to on V&P this year are:

- Independent Chair (Can be from a Full, Affiliate, Associate Member or from outside the Network)
- 3 x Full Council Members
- 3 x Associate Members
- 2 x Affiliate Members

#### **8. Look forward to Telford in 2021**

Cllr Taylor confirmed that we would be holding the Annual Conference in Telford in 2021 if we able to do so.

#### **9. Any Other Business**

Cllr Taylor invited members to complete the Feedback Form to give their views on this year's Conference and invited members to put forward ideas for next year's event.

She thanked all Members for their support and continued encouragement for what has been a phenomenally successful year.

21-10-2020/NH