

# CCIN innovation funding - 2022

## Expression of Interest - Policy Lab CCIN Funding

This is a Word version of the [Expression of Interest form](#) on the CCIN website.

### 1. Organisation leading the project

Kirklees Council

### 2. Lead Councillor or Officer

Jonathan Nunn

### 3. Job Title

Policy & Partnerships Manager

### 4. Contact Telephone

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### 5. Contact Email

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### 6. Project Title

Councils' Cooperative Development Toolkit

### 7. How much funding are you applying for?

*You can submit a bid for between £10k - £20k depending on the complexity of the project.*

£20k to be match funded by Power to Change providing a total of £40k.

It is possible that Cooperatives UK will also seek to identify some funding to contribute though there is no firm commitment to contribute funds at this stage.

### 8. Summary of project idea (150 words max)

*This text will be used on the CCIN website should your application be successful*

This project aims to work with a range of Full and Associate Members with support from Affiliate Members to establish a framework that supports identification of opportunities to improve the local cooperative development context and move towards action. Despite a range of work done over recent years on the theme by various organisations it remains difficult for councils to identify and execute specific actionable projects.

The project will draw on the work of another Policy Lab being led by GMCA and seek to benefit and complement other agreed projects including the Mondragon Study Visit and Coop Options Training.

The project will be based on three phases:

1. Collaboration and research: Framework identification / development and resource consolidation;
2. Testing: Application of resources; and
3. Dissemination: Development and promotion of a toolkit and report.

Throughout the project collaborative and co-production approaches will be used where at all possible.

## **9. Which other CCIN members will work on this project?**

*A key requirement of Policy Lab Funding is that you work in partnership with other CCIN members. We recommend engaging a minimum of three other CCIN members (Affiliates and Associates should bid alongside Full Council members) to create a working group to support the development of your project.*

### **Full Member Councils**

- Oldham Council
- Oxford Council
- South Ribble Borough Council
- Stevenage Council
- Sunderland Council

Royal Borough of Greenwich are interested in participating but are yet to confirm.

### **Affiliate Members**

- Co-operative Futures
- Cooperatives UK
- Innovation Cooperative
- Power to Change

Affiliate member Stir to Action have been made aware of the proposed Policy Lab and are keen to contribute their knowledge and experience as part of the desk-based research phase. They will also consider bidding for any consultancy opportunities put out through the DPS as part of the project.

## 10. Provide a detailed budget of how you will spend the budget and whether you are bringing in other funding.

Funding requested is £20k providing a total of £40k including match funding from Power to Change.

This will be spent as follows with a suggested day rate of £500/day for researcher time:

<b>PHASE 1: COLLABORATION AND RESEARCH (Q3-Q4 2022/23)</b>				<b>£9,000</b>
Build collaborative relationships with key stakeholders	Coordination of relationships, calls etc	3 days	£1,500	
Identify/develop a framework for action	Desk research and scoping workshop with members	5 days	£2,500	
Consolidate resources that support action within the framework	Desk research, collaboration with other Policy Labs, and mapping workshop with members	10 days	£5,000	
<b>PHASE 2: TESTING (Q1-Q3 2023/24)</b>				<b>£23,000</b>
Test resources with sub-group of participating member councils	Peer support workshops	8 days	£4,000	
	Mentoring, training and expert support from affiliates	30 days	£15,000	
Final resource compilation	Write up and completion of framework	8 days	£4,000	
<b>PHASE 3: DISSEMINATION (Q3/Q4 2023/24)</b>				<b>£8,000</b>
Design of microsite/report	Input from team plus £5k professional build	1 day	£5,500	
Promotion at conferences, meetings, networks	Dedicated time sharing and unpacking the resources for different audiences	5 days	£2,500	

## 11. What is your idea and how will you allocate the budget?

*Explain how you identified the need or opportunity for the proposal and how the money will be spent.*

The intention of this project is to work with a range of Full Member Councils and Associate Member town and parish councils to identify the opportunities available to them to promote cooperatives and identify the barriers to doing this, and then to move them towards action. Significant work has been done over recent years around this theme through CCIN, Cooperatives UK, CLES, Locality, New Local, Power to Change, GMCA and others but it still remains difficult for councils to identify and execute specific actionable projects.

As mentioned below, this is being tackled locally in Greater Manchester by a group of CCIN member Councils, and this Policy Lab seeks to build on this through the experience of more advanced local work, draw in a full range of available resources from stakeholders and make it as accessible, practical and applicable to the widest spectrum of Councils, at different scales, as possible. It will draw not only on Full Member Council experiences but also on the expertise of associate and affiliate members to focus on unlocking potential obstacles within an easily navigable framework.

This project will therefore seek to:

- a) Identify or develop a framework for action – i.e. the areas in which change can realistically be implemented by Councils at different scales;
- b) Consolidate resources that equip councils to identify priorities in each area of the framework and take action – compiling existing reports and toolkits, case studies etc of the different mechanisms councils have at their disposal (including but not limited to procurement and commissioning);
- c) Test these resources by application in participating member councils' contexts – adding to the existing resource base with more tangible, realistic examples (including where possible costings and processes) in different contexts, with the support of expert mentors;
- d) Publish a report and toolkit enabling other councils to easily identify their opportunities and needs and adopt these approaches. This should support Councils – both CCIN members and others interested in supporting cooperatives – to move beyond policies into collaborative, implementable projects and actions in their places.

Points (a) and (b) make up Phase 1: Research and Collaboration, in Q3 and Q4 of 2022. This will be partially desk based and partially researched through workshops and interviews with member Councils, affiliates and infrastructure and support providers in the sector. This phase will include ensuring that key stakeholders are engaged and supportive e.g. CUK and have an opportunity to shape outputs so they are most useful.

Point (c) will be Phase 2: Testing, in Q1-Q3 of 2023. This will be work that happens more in depth with a smaller selection of member Councils who are already on the journey

and keen to test out the framework and resources as a way of supporting them to act decisively and make the case internally.

Point (d) will be Phase 3: Dissemination, in Q3-4 of 2023. This will consist of publishing the resources in an agreed format and disseminating them at the CCIN Conference and through other stakeholder networks.

## **12. What are the outcomes you hope to achieve?**

*What are the outcomes you hope to achieve through this project and how will you know if your outcomes are achieved? What is your measure of success?*

While it is likely there will be specific outcomes for individual interventions at the local level, the intended outcomes of this project are:

- Increased understanding of cooperatives and the conditions required for their success on the part of officers and elected members.
- Officers and elected members better able to identify areas for action to improve the conditions for the creation and success of cooperatives.
- Stakeholders in participating localities report improvements in the context for cooperative development.

## **13. How does your project support the aims and objectives of the Co-operative Councils Innovation Network?**

*The Co-operative Councils' Innovation Network aims to frame the debate on the future of sustainable solutions to public sector challenges. Our work will ultimately improve outcomes for communities by enabling Members to develop radical innovation in policy and practice, sharing best practices and learning, and enabling innovators to chart new territory together. Please provide details of how your project will support this aim.*

By providing information, pathways and tools that make cooperation easy, this project enables CCIN member councils and others to move rapidly and cost effectively beyond policy into action, practically enabling and supporting the development of cooperative economy initiatives in their locality. This will have a direct and positive influence on the scale, strength and viability of local cooperative economies, strengthening the communities in which they operate, improving resilience and sustainability, and providing a platform on which to develop further radical innovation.

## **14. How does your project support the CCIN Statement of Values and Principles?**

See Statement: : <https://www.councils.coop/about-us/values-and-principles/>

This proposal particularly relates the principle of **Enterprise and social economy** though it may also support the principles of;

- Maximising social value;
- Community leadership and a new role for councillors;
- New models of meeting priority needs; and,
- Innovation.

As with all policy labs Learning and Walking the talk are integral to the approach.

## **15. How will you share your learning across the Co-operative Councils' Innovation Network?**

The way in which learning will be shared will be developed and clarified throughout the project working with the steering group and wider stakeholders. However, this is likely to include:

- Presentation of the project and interim findings at the CCIN Conference 2023;
- Publication of a report and toolkit;
- Development of a brief accessible guide to the template (potentially an A5 folded pamphlet);
- A launch event and workshop;
- Promotion of the report and toolkit including through case studies and the CCIN newsletter;
- Participation in network meetings and other events to share the work e.g. Cooperatives UK Convention and New Local meetings.

## **16. I agree that the final report will clearly show the Co-operative Difference that this project will deliver.**

Agree