



# Co-operative Councils

Innovation Network

## STRATEGY



LocalGov Drupal

## Co-creating a public asset for the 21st century

LocalGov Drupal is a collaboration between over 34 local councils from across the UK and Ireland.

It's a public digital asset, created by councils, for councils. As more councils participate the greater its value. This stretches beyond simply the platform itself and into our shared pool of user research and expertise.

Together we've developed a best-practice, open-source publishing platform that is freely available to all councils.

Many councils have already built their website using our platform. These include Barking and Dagenham, Milton Keynes and Croydon Council.

### The problem we're solving

398 UK councils are each rebuilding their main websites every 3-5 years. The user needs are largely the same, but councils don't swap notes or collaborate, instead creating expensive standalone solutions to shared problems. LocalGov Drupal is the antidote to this.

### Our Community

We're a community of experts, working together openly and transparently. We're motivated by a desire to help other councils deliver the best possible digital experience for citizens and reduce the risks and costs associated with council websites.

We take our inspiration from other code sharing organisations and initiatives and recognise that we are part of a wider international movement and community.

We want as many people as possible to benefit from this project.

*"LGD is what proper local gov digital collaboration looks like. A single platform where everyone gets the benefits of each other's investment for free. Solving problems once, together. I'd urge any council to get on board, it's a no-brainer!"*

Neil Williams, Chief Digital Officer at Croydon Council, former head of GOV.UK

### **A new co-operative**

In January 2023 we established Open Digital Cooperative to help run, develop and ensure the financial sustainability of the project. Councils and suppliers pay a subscription fee (voluntary for councils) to keep our unique collaboration going. We have previously received funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

LocalGov Drupal was founded for the public good, so we will always:

- publish our code and documentation freely under an open-source licence (GPL2),
- respond to pull requests from all of our users, whether they are members of LocalGov Drupal or not,
- provide information to any public body or supplier wanting to find out more about our work.

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### **For further information contact:**

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