



Cooperative Councils' Innovation Network

Coop Places - June 26 **Update for CCIN Member Councils with** **Pride in Place Neighbourhood Boards**

Pride in Place is moving from plans into action. Phase 1 areas are starting to deliver, and Phase 2 areas are forming Neighbourhood Boards.

At CCIN, we recognise the role of local authorities as accountable bodies, and we want to be clear about what the Network can offer when it comes to a cooperative approach to placemaking, and how we can work with our members to help futureproof, keep momentum, and confidently deliver positive outcomes.

With governance structures being formulated. You will recognise that Community engagement must go beyond one-off consultation. Many areas are trying to connect Pride in Place to wider regeneration, public service work and local economic priorities, and there is a genuine risk that places could end up reinventing approaches that others are already testing.

At the Co-operative Councils' Innovation Network, we not only want to work to reduce that risk, but also to facilitate best practice and knowledge sharing amongst CCIN Member Pride In Place Neighbourhoods through building a **Pride in Place Community of Practice for Officers in CCIN Member Councils.**

As a Member of CCIN, we can support you in your role as accountable bodies and Neighbourhood Board conduits, to think clearly about the role of cooperative placemaking, access relevant expertise, and make practical use of existing member benefits that can help you deliver with confidence.

You are invited to our initial Community of Practice Online Workshop:
Bringing cooperative practice to the front of Pride in Place
Thursday 16th July 2026 - 10.30am - 12.00pm*
[Click this link to register for this Workshop](#)

For this session, we will be joined by Associate Members Mark Bandali from Mutual Ventures, taking us through current experiences of interfacing with the

Pride in Place Programme and governance insight with [Sarah Patrice from Anthony Collins](#). The Workshop will be chaired by CCIN's Acting Chair, Councillor [Paul Cassidy](#) (Inverclyde Council).

**Please share this email with all Officers working to support Pride in Place at your Council*

Access our range of CCIN Resources

Coop Places - Five cooperative priorities

These five cooperative priorities help focus Cooperative Placemaking in a way that is practical, resident-led and lasting, and we encourage CCIN Members to share experiences and stories for success and learnings around these.

1. Democratic Governance

Establishing governance structures with genuine authority. Councils can remain accountable bodies, with a cooperative approach where boards have a meaningful role in shaping priorities, making decisions and influencing spend, with the right support, facilitation and capacity behind them.

2. Shared Ownership

Cooperative placemaking goes beyond engagement; it builds long-term community stake and ownership. In practice, that can mean thinking about community assets, land, enterprise, legacy vehicles and wider institutions that can remain in local hands long after any programme window.

3. Inclusive Participation

Reaching people who don't usually engage, including young people, communities with low social capital and residents who may not be connected to formal local networks. Engagement is seen as an ongoing relationship, not a single exercise, ensuring decision makers stay rooted in its neighbourhood.

4. Economic solidarity

Programmes must deliver more of the economic value generated in a place to stay in that place. This includes thinking about community wealth building, local supply chains, cooperative and worker-owned models, local enterprise support and the role of anchor institutions in strengthening a Neighbourhood's economy.

5. Accountability

To build trust, governance should be visibly answerable to local people. This means clear roles, transparency of decisions, open reporting and feedback loops that show communities how their voice has influenced what happens next.

Taken together, these five commitments give neighbourhoods a practical way to think about cooperative placemaking.



What CCIN can offer

CCIN is developing Coop Places as a practical offer for Members who want to strengthen the cooperative placemaking agenda. Our ambition is simple: to help our Members access peer learning, networking, practical tools and specialist support that make delivery stronger and more cooperative in practice.

This includes:

- Shared learning on themes such as governance, neighbourhood working, engagement and additionality.
- Access to CCIN's wider network of affiliate organisations with relevant expertise in public service reform, community wealth building, cooperative development, governance, legal design and community-led regeneration.
- A practical route to procurement through the CCIN Dynamic Purchasing System for Full and Associate Members.

CCIN Affiliate Expertise and the CCIN DPS

A practical advantage that CCIN can offer is access to affiliate organisations that understand cooperative local government and place-based change.

CCIN's Dynamic Purchasing System is a fully electronic procurement route that allows CCIN members and associate members to access a pool of pre-qualified suppliers without having to build a procurement process from scratch. The DPS is split into two lots: Policy Development and Testing, and Capacity Building, and it runs until 30 March 2029.

For Pride in Place areas, it means being able to move quickly when specialist support is needed on issues such as neighbourhood governance, strategy, community engagement, policy design, capacity building or delivery support.

It also helps local procurement teams by providing a compliant route that is already aligned to the type of work many places now need.

Using the CCIN DPS - Video

Affiliate Spotlight

CCIN's affiliate network shows a breadth of support available for members to use—from community wealth building and cooperative development to legal design, procurement advice and long-term delivery planning.

Where councils need fast, compliant access to help, the CCIN Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) provides a ready route to pre-qualified suppliers across two lots (Policy Development & Testing, Capacity Building), removing the need to run a full tender before getting started.

We are working with our Affiliate Members to help identify what support they can provide to you as a CCIN Member as part of collaborative working. The example below gives you a flavour of what we're working on.

Affiliate Member example: Mutual Ventures

Mutual Ventures is one of the affiliate organisations CCIN and its members have used in place-based and cooperative work previously.

An Opportunity that Mutual Ventures is seeking to facilitate for CCIN Members and their Neighbourhood boards includes an online Pro-bono workshop and practical session with CCIN Members looking at a variety of subjects, including:

- The immediate path to plan submission and early delivery readiness.
- Delivery design: help to test governance arrangements so boards can make real decisions, not just endorse documents.
- Readiness-to-deliver checks: a practical appraisal of what has to be in place to move from plan approval to day-one delivery.

With a session delivered at no cost to CCIN Member councils or Neighbourhood Boards you can express your interest in accessing this support by emailing hello@councils.coop and we'll co-ordinate next steps and availability for an online Session.

This practical offer recognises that when we get together to share experiences and network, the quality of your final submission and the readiness to deliver improves dramatically. That's why CCIN is encouraging councils to take up these offers now rather than later.

Next Steps

To help CCIN provide the right support, please email hello@councils.coop to confirm your interest in being part of our Pride in Place Community of Practice. **Include the name of your CCIN Member and Neighbourhood Board.**

"Coop Places is still taking shape, the need is already clear. Local areas will benefit from practical support, peer learning and away of working that fits the reality of Pride in Place"

**Cllr Paul Cassidy
- Interim Chair - Executive Oversight Committee, CCIN**

Register for the Community of Practice Workshop. - 16 July 2026



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