

Join us

Working together, we are stronger



The co-operative economy

In the UK there are over 4,900 co-operatives, employing more than 230,000 people, with a combined turnover above £30 billion.

Who we are

Co-operatives UK is owned by organisations from across the UK, working together to put co-operative enterprise at the very heart of modern society and the economy.

Membership is open to any organisation supportive of co-operative or mutual forms of business.

Working with and for our members:

- **We promote:**
The co-operative business model to the media, decision-makers and wider society.
- **We develop:**
The co-operative economy and co-operatives with access to information, guidance and support.
- **We unite:**
Co-operatives from across the UK, at a local, national and international level.

www.uk.coop

Take a closer look at what's on offer...

Membership of Co-operatives UK means you are part of a national movement that puts co-operatives at the heart of the matter – from connecting with others to lobbying government – working together, we are all stronger.

Co-operative support

- Constitutional and governance advice for your co-operative business.
- Access to legal advice on any matter affecting your business.
- Access to tools and resources to raise your media profile.
- Exclusive services from the Co-operative Bank, the Phone Co-op and Co-operative Insurance Services.

Access to networks and campaigns

- Discounted rates at events and conferences.
- Forums to share business, connect and learn from other co-operatives.
- Online groups to develop contacts and business opportunities.
- Opportunities to influence and contribute to our campaigns.
- Savings with a range of member to member offers.

Sharing intelligence

- Influence national policy and contribute to key consultations from government.
- Information to improve your business performance.
- Develop new thinking via a range of interest groups, networks and conferences.
- Opportunities to contribute to international networks and partners across the globe with the International Co-operative Alliance.

Co-operative support

Constitutional and governance advice for your co-operative business

From new start co-operatives through to multi-million pound businesses, we offer a range of constitutional and governance services. Membership means you have access to advice and guidance on registering new co-operatives, redrafting your governing document and ensuring your governance arrangements are fit for purpose.

Access to legal advice on any matter affecting your business

Membership brings you access to legal specialists in the co-operative sector. Working with a firm of solicitors, our members receive free advice on any matter relating to their co-operative business. *(time restrictions apply)*

Access to tools and resources to raise your media profile

Our campaigns raise the profile of co-operation, helping all co-operative businesses to be better understood and recognised. Joining Co-operatives UK means you can get involved and have access to all you need to shout about your co-operative, for example during our Co-operatives Fortnight campaign.

Exclusive services

Members also benefit from exclusive services from:

- **The Co-operative Bank** – free business banking for all members with a turnover of less than £1 million per year and negotiated deals for larger co-operatives.
- **The Phone Co-op** – discounted business telecommunications for members.
- **Co-operative Insurance Services** – specialist advice and no-obligation quotes for your business insurance needs.

“ The support available has been invaluable... and the fact that there is an ongoing relationship means we can speak to someone we know and trust really easily. ”

Rebecca John, whomadeyourpants

Access to networks and campaigns

Discounted rates at events and conferences

Joining Co-operatives UK means you get discounts at our events and conferences, bringing together co-operative members, employees and activists from across the movement.

Forums to share business, connect and learn from other co-operatives

Membership brings many opportunities to network, share knowledge and learn best practice from others. From our forums to our national conferences, membership brings opportunities to share, connect and learn.

Online groups to develop contacts and business opportunities

Our members have access to discussion groups, event listings and online information on a range of topics with contributions from Co-operatives UK and members including blogs and news stories.

Opportunities to influence and contribute to our campaigns

Our campaign work demonstrates the relevance of co-operation in modern society. Recent campaigns by Co-operatives UK, with our members, have had outstanding success, for example securing online access to data for industrial and provident societies. As a member you can help shape, inform and get involved in our campaigns.

Savings with a range of member to member offers

From developing your brand through to discounts on office stationary, our member-to-member offers provides a place for your co-operative to make savings on services from other co-operative members. You can also market your own co-operative with a special offer to other members.

“ Without the support of Co-operatives UK, our proposals would never have been raised as high on the political agenda as they have been. ”

Dave Boyle, Supporters Direct

Sharing intelligence

Opportunities to influence national policy and contribute to key consultations from government.

Being a member means that you can contribute to shaping our policy agenda and inform our consultation responses on key areas of national policy. From business support to housing needs, membership means your needs and aspirations are vocalised.

Information to improve your business performance.

With our key annual publication, The Co-operative Economy, members are able to relate their performance and contribution to a UK-wide movement and benchmark their performance against others in the sector. Membership also brings you opportunities to share your experience with others and develop peer networks across our membership.

Develop new thinking via a range of interest groups, networks and conferences.

Membership brings you access to a range of information and groups to support you in developing new thinking and innovation for co-operation. From research papers to our business development panel, joining Co-operatives UK gives you opportunities to test new ideas and develop your thinking.

Opportunities to contribute to international networks.

It's not just about the UK. There are strong international links as well. By joining Co-operatives UK, you become a member of an international community of co-operatives with the International Co-operative Alliance, providing opportunities to support global initiatives and develop worldwide links.

Are you a co-operative or mutual organisation?

If you are a business that is owned by and run for your members, and those members all have a fair say – you are run on co-operative or mutual lines. You don't have to use the word co-operative in your name or your marketing – after all co-operatives have a variety of names, from credit unions to farmer controlled businesses, and housing co-ops to healthcare providers.

But what makes co-operatives different, is that the business is for the benefit of members not external shareholders and that's what unites us all.

Our membership offer

All our members receive:

- Access to a range of sector and issue based member forums.
- Discounts to our events and conferences.
- Exclusive member to member discounts.
- Access to networking events and contacts across the co-operative movement.
- Updates on news, ideas and opportunities across the movement.

+ Complete Co-operative Package

For co-operatives and mutuals from £65 per year

- voting rights at Co-operatives UK general meetings, at elections and the opportunity to be elected to the Board of Directors.
- tailored constitution and governance advice.
- free solicitors advice on any legal matter relating to your business.
- advance notice on key policy developments affecting your business.
- discounts on co-operative business services, including free business banking.
- information and opportunities to be involved in the International Co-operative Alliance.
- opportunities to influence and contribute to our campaigns.

Special offer

New start co-operatives get the Complete Co-operative Package for FREE in your first year of business.

+ Affiliate Package

For members of one of our national federal members, from just £45

If you are already a member of one of our federal members then you can get our member package at a special rate of just £45 per year, plus:

- discounts on co-operative business services, including free business banking.

+ Associate Package

For all organisations that are not co-operatives or mutuals, and want to support our work, receive our member package, plus:

- voting rights at Co-operatives UK general meetings.

Our annual membership fees

Complete the form overleaf to join us today or call us on 0161 246 2900 to discuss how membership can help your business.

Complete Co-operative Package

For all co-operative and mutual organisations

Our subscriptions range from **£65** and subscriptions increase according to your turnover and number of employees. **Special Offer New start co-operatives get a year's free complete co-operative package**

For our larger members – those with a turnover over £7 million per year and/or with more than 50 employees – we negotiate a suitable membership subscription with you, starting at £1000 to reflect the level of service delivered. If you fall within this category, please call us to discuss your membership of Co-operatives UK. For more information check our subscriptions online at www.uk.coop/subs

Affiliate Package

For all co-operatives in membership of a national federal member

Our affiliate members pay **£45** per year

Our federal members are: Confederation of Co-operative Housing (CCH), Association of British Credit Unions (ABCUL), Scottish Agricultural Organisation Society (SAOS), English Food and Farming (EFFP), Working Men's Clubs and Institute, Supporters' Direct and Plunkett Foundation.

Associate Package

For all organisations that are not co-operatives or mutuals

Our Associate membership subscription ranges from **£100 to £400** per year. Check your subscription at www.uk.coop/associates

All values are subject to VAT at the rate applicable at the time of application

Join us

Please complete the sections below to either join or find out more about how membership can benefit your organisation.

- I want to join Co-operatives UK today – please tick your membership package
- Complete co-operative package *For co-operative and mutual organisations*
 - Special offer** – new start co-operative *For all new start co-operatives in their first year of business*
 - Affiliate package *For co-operatives in membership of a federal member*
 - Associate package *For all organisations that are not co-operatives or mutuals*
- I want Co-operatives UK to contact me to discuss how we can benefit from membership

Contacts:

Main Contact

Email

Telephone

Your organisation:

Name of your organisation

Telephone

Website

Address

Postcode

Is your organisation a:

- Company IPS LLP Unincorporated Not sure

Registration Number

Please describe the work of your organisation:

If applying for membership:

We hereby apply for membership of Co-operatives UK and confirm that we support the purpose and objects of Co-operatives UK, agree to accept and abide by the Rules of the Society and give permission to receive notice of formal Co-operatives UK Limited business by electronic means at the contact email address given above.

Signed

Date

- We occasionally share our members' details with our third party service providers, in the co-operative movement. Please tick the box if you agree for your organisational details to be shared.

Please return your completed form to:

Co-operatives UK Membership, Freepost NAT3491, Holyoake House, Hanover Street, Manchester M4 9ZQ.



CO-OPERATIVES UK

Co-operatives UK works to promote, develop and unite co-operative enterprises. It has a unique role as a trade association for co-operatives and its campaigns for co-operation, such as Co-operatives Fortnight, bring together all those with a passion and interest in co-operative action.

Any organisation supportive of co-operation and mutuality can join and there are many opportunities online for individuals to connect to the latest co-operative news, innovations and campaigns. All members benefit from specialist services and the chance to network with other co-operatives, whilst for new co-operatives, Co-operatives UK provides low cost registration, free membership and free advice on legal structures and governance.

Developing the co-operative economy

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