



**co-operative
party**

unleashing community power

Co-operative Party Local Government
Conference 2019

Programme

Welcome

A warm welcome to the North East & Cumbria region

John Creaby

Chair The North East & Cumbria Co-operative Party



Co-operation has a strong and far reaching tradition in our region of which we are proud.

Since the 19th Century along the Tyne river, the Co-operative Wholesale Society (CWS) held a considerable place which hosted many of its factories and warehouses, where Co-op ships docked, and Newcastle retail thrived. South of the Tyne, Pelaw became a major centre of co-operative manufacturing. While in the north, the CWS even had a Colliery in Northumberland, Shillbottle Colliery.

While we remember our past, we move forward, and our movement's influence continues to grow. In National and Local Government, we have advanced tremendously. With more Councillors and City Leaders, Mayors, MPs and Lords than ever before. As councillors and active supporters here today, you are carrying on that history, that tradition.

So we warmly welcome you and know we will have a great Conference.

Online councillor hub

Access the latest news, briefings and resources by visiting:
www.party.coop/local/councillors

Marketplace

Don't miss the following organisations at this year's Conference Marketplace.

Sponsored by the North East & Cumbria Co-operative Party

📍 Regency Room

- Co-operative Councils Innovation Network
- SERA - Labour's Environment Campaign
- Fairtax Mark
- Co-operative College
- Code-operative
- Moneywise Credit Union
- Mental Health North East
- Firesouls
- Gateshead Credit Union
- Co-operative and Mutual Solutions
- Co-operative Party

Programme

📍 Assembly Rooms,
Fenkle Street,
Newcastle,
NE1 5XU

📍 Unless otherwise noted, all sessions take place
in the Wedgewood Room

10:00 Registration open

🕒 10:30

Welcome

Claire McCarthy

General Secretary of the Co-operative Party



Civic Welcome

Cllr Nick Forbes

Leader of Newcastle City Council
and the LGA Labour Group

🕒 10:40

Keynote

Andrew Gwynne MP

Shadow Secretary of State for Communities
and Local Government



🕒 11:00

In Focus

▶ Unleashing Community Power

- **Cllr Angeliki Stogia**
Greater Manchester Co-op Commission
- **Paul Monaghan** Fair Tax Mark
- **Cormac Hollingsworth** Hope Not Hate
- **Sophie Macken** Power to Change

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🕒 11:40

Masterclasses

➤ 1. Newly Elected! How to unleash power across your community

- **Andrew Gwynne MP**
- **Emma Hoddinott**
Co-operative Party Local Government Officer

📍 **Chandelier Room**

➤ 2. Community organising for Food Justice

- **Pam Warhurst** Founder of Incredible Edible
- **James Butler** Co-operative Party Campaigns Officer

📍 **Wedgewood Room**

➤ 3. Tackling the climate emergency: What co-operators and their communities can do

- **Cllr Tom Hayes** Oxford City Council
- **Anna Birley** Co-op Party Policy Officer

📍 **Falstaff Room**

12:45 Lunch & networking

📍 **Chandelier Room**

🕒 13:30

In Focus

➤ Tackling crime – a community approach

- **Scott Walker**
East of England Society Community Safety Project
- **Cllr Caroline Selman**, London Borough of Hackney
- **Alun Michael**
Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales
- **Cllr Joy Allen** Durham County Council

14:15 Tea and coffee

📍 **Falstaff Room**

unleashing
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The Co-operative Party is becoming a campaigning force in our communities. From over 90 councils signing up to our Modern Day Slavery Charter, to groups taking forward ideas in our Food Justice Campaign. Our network of hundreds of Labour & Co-operative Councillors across the country are doing amazing things.

That is why today we are launching our guide *Being a Co-operative Councillor*, helping you to put the co-operative difference into practice in your area.

The Guide is there to help new Councillors by sharing best practice and case studies, as well as pointing you in the right direction to all the support the Co-operative Party provides.

Despite the impasse in national politics, the masterclasses today give a flavour of what is possible now if we unleash the power in communities to create change.

🕒 14:30

In Focus

➤ An education for every child

- **Frank Norris** Director of the Co-op Academies Trust
- **Jack Hunter** IPPR North
- **Sharon Hodgson MP**
- **Cllr Sean Fielding** Leader of Oldham Council

🕒 15:30

In Focus

➤ Co-operative Devolution

- **Janine Docherty** NEC member for the North East
- **Jamie Driscoll** North of Tyne Mayor
- **Jim McMahon MP**

16:00 Conference close

🕒 16:00

Co-operative Party Youth Network

Be a Young Councillor

Networking event. All conference attendees aged 30 and under are welcome.

🕒 16:30

Conference social

All conference attendees are welcome for drinks and buffet. Sponsored by The North East & Cumbria Co-operative Party.



Bonbar

(underneath the conference venue)

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Policy process

There is still time to take part in our 2019 policy process. Here's how to have your say.

Our annual policy process gives members and local parties the chance to shape the Co-operative Party's position on key issues by sharing their ideas and experiences.

This year members can respond to consultations on two policy areas:

- ⦿ Community, place and power
- ⦿ Climate change, energy and environment

Submissions made by members over the year form the starting point for debates at regional conferences throughout the year and at National Conference, which is held in October.

**The consultation
process runs until
Monday 17 June
2019.**



How to take part

All individual members, local parties and co-operative societies are invited to make a response to either or both consultation topics.

While responses from those with relevant experience or expertise are encouraged, everyone is encouraged to take part. Equally valuable are your experiences and first-hand insights from your community.

Respond online

The most straightforward way to have your say is by responding online. You can make a response either as an individual or on behalf of a local party or organisation, with the option of either uploading a document containing your response or answering a short questionnaire.

www.party.coop/policy/new

Attend an event locally

Local parties have been organising local policy discussions. If you are an officer, you can find information about how we can support you in doing this via the Officer Hub.

www.party.coop/officers

Resources

The Co-operative Party produces a range of policy documents and practical guides to support the work of co-operators in local government, which are free to download:

Standing up for private renters

This guide for Councillors is designed to provide practical tools you can use to take on rogue landlords and to stand up for tenants in the private rental sector.

www.party.coop/publication/private-renters



Becoming a co-operative councillor

This guide sets out what it means to be a co-operative councillor, the selection and election process, and practical ways councillors can champion co-operation in the communities they serve.

www.party.coop/publication/councillor-guide



6 steps to build community wealth

A practical guide to implementing the 'community wealth building' model, based on using existing assets within the community to generate local economic growth co-operatively.

www.party.coop/publication/6-steps-to-build-community-wealth/



Credit Unions and local government: working in partnership

Produced in partnership with ABCUL, our guide includes examples of credit unions and local authorities working together to encourage financial resilience and vibrant local economies

www.party.coop/publication/creditunions





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Promoted by Claire McCarthy on behalf of the Co-operative Party, both at 65 St John Street, London EC1M 4AN.

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