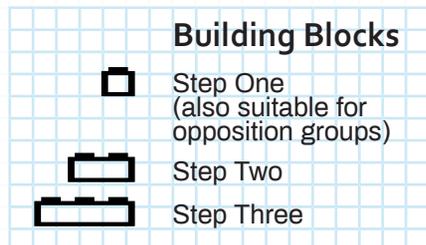


HOW TO BUILD YOUR OWN CO-OPERATIVE MANIFESTO

Want to put co-operative principles and policies at the heart of your local manifesto, but unsure where to start? Use this “Build your own Co-operative Manifesto” worksheet to help you select co-operative ideas for your manifesto that will tackle the issues your community is facing. Simply tick the building blocks for the ideas you’d like to implement, and then collate them together at the end.



For further help, relevant case studies and more – visit party.coop/localmanifesto.

Achieving Food Justice

Urgent action is needed to assist those struggling to be able to put food on their families’ tables and councillors can take a lead in achieving this.

- Seek a scrutiny review into access to food in your area
- Ensure your residents are receiving all the benefits they are entitled to by adopting a ‘cash first strategy’
- Work to increase the take up of Healthy Start vouchers by raising the awareness of them amongst eligible groups
- Appoint a Food Champion
- Produce a food plan and build up food partnerships
- Establish Food Hubs
- Explore Community Fridges
- Open a community shop

Towards Ethical Tax and Procurement

We believe action to promote ethical business practices and procurement can help to end the damage caused by both tax avoidance and modern slavery.

- Sign-up to be a Fair Tax Council
- Pass and report on the Modern Slavery Charter
- Develop a progressive procurement strategy

Unlocking High Streets

Local Councils can perform a leading role in enabling communities to come together to reshape their town centres for the future.

- Review your register of Assets of Community Value
- Pass our high streets motion
- Facilitate community purchase of Assets of Community Value through share offers
- Establish Community Improvement Districts (CIDs) – to help economic development

Transitioning to Community Energy

To achieve our net zero targets, we will need radical change to our energy system, decarbonising our homes and local economies.

- Support our #CantWaitToInsulate campaign – which seeks to retrofit 19 million homes by 2030
- Audit the council housing stock and set out a plan for net zero
- Plan a retrofitting programme with local community energy co-operatives
- Create a Community Energy Fund
- Allocate council land to community energy projects

Unleashing Credit Unions

Credit unions – member-owned financial co-operatives can be the vital financial lifeline which helps people to support their families, improve their homes and invest in their children’s education.

- Create a payroll deduction for council staff to a local credit union. This could be made a requirement for private companies tendering for council contracts
- Host credit unions in council buildings or alongside council services
- Establish a credit union or provide patient shares to an existing credit union

Creating a Co-operative Economy

Councils can play a pivotal role in enabling this local economic development, through Community Wealth Building and progressive procurement which retains wealth in local economies.

- Map local co-ops and mutuals and engage with them to find out what they need for growth
- Develop and implement a Community Wealth Building strategy/Progressive procurement strategy
- Establish or support a local co-operative development agency

Remaking the Housing Sector

Co-op housing can provide options for all types of incomes – providing people with membership and a voice in where they live.

- Establish a local private renters' forum/private tenants' association
- Reform local landlord licensing to promote good practice and penalise bad landlords
- Deliver new co-operative housing models for all income levels. Enable community led housing provision within social housing by enabling tenants to manage their own estates

Building Community Power

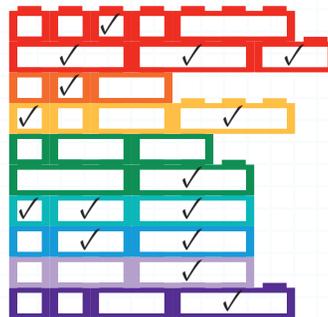
Empowering our communities is at the heart of co-operative politics. Building the power of communities to shape their local area and economy should be at the heart of any regional growth agenda.

- Volunteer with local community groups, charities and foodbanks
- Sign up to the Diverse Councils Declaration – calling on democratic representation to reflect the vibrancy of local communities
- Call for greater devolution of powers and funding to a local level – including the Levelling Up Fund, the Towns Fund and the Shared Prosperity Fund. Set up local funds for Councillors or communities
- Develop long-term strategic support for communities

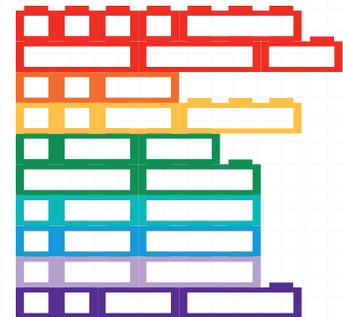
I YOUR MANIFESTO:

*Achieving Food Justice
Towards Ethical Tax and Procurement
Unlocking High Streets*

*Transitioning to Community Energy
Unleashing Credit Unions
Creating a Co-operative Economy
Remaking the Housing Sector
Building Community Power*



Example:
Preston City Council 2022



Your council:

Bring your completed worksheet to your next Labour Group meeting, or arrange a meeting to work through and complete it together. If further support, questions or information is needed please do contact us at local@party.coop or visit our website.



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