



Your voice

2020 Members' Council Elections
South West



Kevan Cook

Occupation Retired Marine Biologist

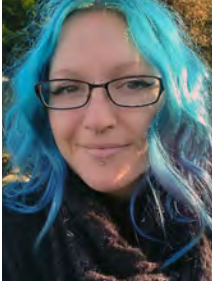
Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food

Summary Address

Hello, I'm Kevan and support the Co-op and its core principles. In particular, funding local community groups and the reduction of unnecessary packaging and plastic waste. I volunteer at The Acorn Theatre in Penzance and as a driver for Volunteer Cornwall. Although now retired, I trained as a marine biologist and have excellent organisational skills, honed managing and delivering several projects. If successful, I will bring this knowledge and passion to the role.

Additional Address

None



Colleague Member

Julia Schlotel

Occupation Team Leader

Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food and Insurance

Summary Address

I'm committed to the values of Co-op and want to help strengthen and spread them, encouraging awareness in all.

Additional Address

The reason I am a colleague member as well as a long term member of Co-op is because I strongly believe in our ethics and values. I would like to see them reaching further however. I think the Co-op stands alone in how it does business and can be at the forefront of big changes in how we look after our environment and communities. I feel that the approach to the success of things like Fairtrade Fortnight, food share partnerships and the new Gro range could be tailored more in areas where awareness and interest is lower. I think these ethical movements are key not just for the business but for our planet. I am proud to be involved with a business that cares and can have a positive effect, and I want to promote that.

I have worked on the festivals team the last two years and found it enjoyable and inspiring to spread the message in such a different environment. I've also worked on an island store, where issues like recycling and waste are literally key to the community, and I would like to see these things valued highly everywhere, for everyone's future.



Stephen Oliver

Occupation Retired Deputy Head

Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food

Summary Address

I've shopped at Co-op all my life. My mum and sister worked on the check-out for over 30 years. It isn't an ordinary shop; it has standing when compared to other supermarkets. As a retired Deputy-Head and part-time Inspector, I'm used to people and optimism! I do voluntary work taking Plymouth children sailing and teaching in Uganda and Nepal. I believe I have the skills, enthusiasm and judgement to do a good job for members.

Additional Address

I have a commitment to the Co-op through my family's history of working and shopping there. I do have a genuine interest in the Co-op's businesses, services and products, particularly the fruit loaf!

In a world of globalisation and mega corporations I think people are more inclined to become part of an enterprise that is owned and controlled by them.

The following gives an insight into my current thoughts.

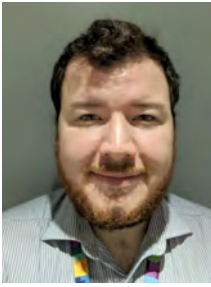
My local Co-op in Staddiscombe, Plymouth is a very busy, successful shop and filling station used by most locals as it's quick, well priced, convenient and has easy parking. For many though it is also a place to meet locals as you're shopping. Some will go there because they admire the Co-op's ethics and principles but I think most don't because they are not aware of them. The Co-op should do more to show its proud history and principles. Publicise the fact that the money spent mostly stays in the local community and that a proportion goes to, not only, members but also to worthy local causes. Recipients would only be too happy to come in and explain how they are using it.

Given its location my local's future and that of many other Co-ops seems assured, that assurance should give them the strength to try new things. People are rightly fussier about where their food comes from, what's in it and how it is presented. There is still too much packaging and not enough recycling. Local 'farm' shops are showing the way with refill stations for all types of items, loose veg, wonky veg at cut prices, paper bags and lots of local produce. QR codes on goods in some Italian co-ops allow shoppers to track where their food has come from by using an App. Shoppers also notice when so much of a shop's floor space is taken up with the promotion of alcohol; the Co-op should take a principled lead in reducing this and explain why. Shoppers will applaud it and the Co-op's stock will rise further.

Shops should have a place where people can chat. They use their outside space to allow local producers to highlight their produce, eggs, pasties, bottled milk, local bread. Imagine the fresh fish from Plymouth fish market!

As for my personal characteristics, suffice to say, that I like working with people towards a worthy cause and the Co-op is one.

Being a Deputy Head in a mixed Comprehensive school of 1,600 students with a budget of several million £s meant that I did have to communicate well (and assertively) and contribute to sound financial decisions. As an Ofsted Inspector, I needed to be well organised, ask searching questions, working as part of a team to tell the public the current position of their child's school. For the last 8 years I've used the same skills as an independent voluntary panellist sitting on disciplinary panels for the Teacher Regulation Agency. I'm also a committee member at the Royal Plymouth Corinthian Yacht Club.



Daniel Beare

Occupation Senior Project Manager

Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food

Summary Address

As a user of a local Co-op store for nearly four years I have seen the great work that the Co-op undertake within the local community and I am proud to be part of the local community helping causes that directly impact the local area. I'd love to help shape the future strategy and vision of the Co-op to ensure this valuable work continues.

Additional Address

As a project manager I understand the importance of having a clear vision and strategy to work to. The Members' Council plays a key role in this process and it is an opportunity that I feel my knowledge and experience will complement perfectly. Being able to be a part of this council will be a great experience for me personally but also for the rural communities that rely on a local store such as the Co-op.



James Craigie

Occupation Horticulture

Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food and Funeralcare

Summary Address

As a Co-operator, Co-op Party member and trade unionist with Unite Community, I know how important it is to safeguard the values of the Co-operative movement while adapting to the modern environment. In my industry of horticulture, we have to understand how things grow and eventually bloom if we get all the elements right. Any co-operative is the same, I see the role of the Co-op Group as the shop window of the whole movement.

Additional Address

I live and work in Bideford, North Devon and I am active within the community in many forms including being an elected town councillor. The Co-op is a unique business model that it can engage and empowers its members to help solve the wider social problems. Often there is considerable public misunderstanding of the difference between being a member of the Co-op and the loyalty card schemes offered by many other supermarkets and businesses. I believe that we have a great opportunity to build wider understanding if we can help engage and educate our members about the Co-op difference. I volunteer at my local youth club and spend time there teaching children why co-operation and working together is better than the constant competition that they are taught by the modern media. We can do similar across the country by getting Co-op Stores to adopt a local youth group and support them, through staff member volunteering schemes, financially through the local community funds and by bring co-operative skills education to young people. We can live the co-operative difference while we show it with our commitment to the next generation, to ensuring they have opportunities to enjoy themselves and to learn.

The environmental challenge, is the key constraint in the next decade for all British businesses and we can either lead the way or we can lose out to other more flexible 'socially responsible' businesses. The democracy of co-operation may sometimes slow things down as we seek the involvement of all, but it provides a strength of depth of thought and longevity of effect. I chair Bideford Town Council's Decarbonisation and Environment Committee, and so I have a details knowledge of challenges we face as a society to decarbonise. Within that challenge of decarbonisation there are also a great many opportunities to promote co-operation and new ways of doing things. The Co-op Group can be part of that process of building community around co-operatives and supporting small local and regional co-operatives, not least by offering a place to sell their produce.

The principles of the co-operative movement are timeless, but the way they are applied must be relevant to the current time. As the secretary of a union branch and trustee on local charities, including the Northern Devon Foodbank, I have experience balancing the principles of inclusion, equality and social justice with the practical challenges in a money constrained world. I have the imagination to think big, yet the laser like focus to manage the details. Together we can make a real difference to both the Co-op Group, the co-operative movement and to wider society. If you believe as I do that we need to take the opportunities of the next few years to show people how co-operatives are the solution to so many of society's ills, then vote for me James Craigie.

If you have any questions or wish to speak to me about anything please email me on JamesCraigieBSG@gmail.com.



Simon Crew

Occupation Data Rights Handler

Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food and Insurance

Summary Address

Standing to be a strong Co-operative voice with experience of representing Bristol members who elected me to Area Committees for 19 years. A co-operator all my life currently Joint-Secretary of National Federation of Progressive Co-operators. The Co-op must go back to its roots with local democratic structures and meaningful engagement with members to survive and grow. Co-operative values must be central to the business. I offer dedication and commitment and ask for your support.

Additional Address

Experience: I became a member of the Co-op aged 18 and have been an active Co-operator ever since. At the age of 19 I was elected to the Co-operative Retail Services (CRS) Bristol Member Relations Committee and subsequently to the Bristol Regional Committee which later became the Bristol then Kennet and Avon Area Committee including serving two years as Chair. I was also elected to the South West Values and Principles Committee for 9 years and was a member of the CRS General Council. I have attended many national meetings as a delegate such as Congress, the Co-operative Party Conference and the Co-op Group AGM and have always spoken up for our values and principles.

I started off as a member of the Bristol Co-operative Working Party, a campaigning member organisation which started off campaigning against the wholesale closure of small shops. It was a great privilege for me to have worked with so many inspirational Co-operators in that organisation and I am proud to have been part of the radical Bristol Co-operative tradition and campaigned against the age rule, for the CRS/Co-operative Wholesale Society (CWS) merger, against pay offs to elected members and for a democratic Co-operative Movement.

I am an active member of the Co-operative Party, have served on the Bristol Co-operative Party Council Executive for 25 years and have previously been Secretary, Vice-Chair and Membership Secretary of the Bristol Party Council.

Policies: I stand for election to support the principles of Co-operative Socialism that I have supported in my years of activism and if elected will argue for the following 1. A local democratic structure - the current structure was brought into being in 2015 with a commitment that there would be local structures, 5 years later this has still not happened, democracy is the basis of Co-operation this must be achieved to ensure a Co-operative future. 2. Support for other Co-operative organisations - we are not a bunch of shops we are an international movement and we must work with other

organisations to work towards our goal of a Co-operative Commonwealth. 3. Member Service and expansion – the whole point of a Consumer Co-operative is to look after our members from the cradle to the grave, we are in food because our members social need in 1844 was pure unadulterated food we need to look at where the needs of our members are now. 4. No more sell offs – whilst remaining mutual, successive management and boards over the past decade or so have been responsible for what must be the biggest demutualisation in history; our bank, farms, large stores, insurance, travel, chemists and much more have been sold to capitalist companies, this must stop, there must be no more selling off of our members assets and any proposed sales should be approved democratically first.

If elected I would regularly meet with members and build democracy within our Co-op. For a Co-operative future please support me in this election.



Rob Hannaford

Occupation Councillor

Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food

Summary Address

Many years in the retail sector. Management roles and USDAW representative. Co-operative Party member. A Councillor since 1995. Exeter City Council since 2004 , nine years' service as a Portfolio Holder. Devon County Council since 2005 ,Group Leader, Chair of Children's Scrutiny. Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority member, Chair of the Human Resources and Development Committee. Charity volunteer and former school governor. Rural issues. Committed to a successful, ethical, sustainable, and profitable Co-op.

Additional Address

None



Current Council Member

Michael Harriott

Occupation Charity Volunteer

Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food and Insurance

Summary Address

I am a passionate believer in the Co-operative business model. As a member of the National Members' Council, I have used my skills, knowledge and experience to ensure that it succeeds in putting the owner's voice at the heart of our Co-op. I'm the Chair of Clevedon Community Bookshop Co-operative; putting principles into practice. My blog <http://coopsw.blogspot.co.uk> regularly keeps members informed about my contribution to the Co-op Council's activities. Thank you for your support.

Additional Address

I am a passionate believer in the Co-operative business model. The idea that people can be owners of a business and have a say in how that business is run is one that I want to support. I truly believe that Co-operatives are better businesses because they weave values, principles and ethics into how they operate. Championing Fairtrade to promote a more sustainable supply chain to people in the developing world; insisting on better labelling so we can see what we are eating; and banning animal testing in our household chemicals ranges are all good examples of this. Co-ops don't always get it right, but the good things still outweigh the bad, and it is for that reason, I want to be part of the future growth of the Co-op. My vision for the future is for members to be seen and treated like owners of the business, so that we have some real say on how our stores look and feel, so that we are consulted on changes and have our views truly taken into account. We should have some influence on what we stock in our shops and how the stores are laid out. I want the Co-op to be at the heart of our communities, making profits to be reinvested back into our stores and our communities. That's why the 5% members offer fits so well with our co-op principles- returning money to our members and linking this to Co-op products. I am also delighted that our 1% members community fund allow members to have the say in how that money is distributed in their community.

I have represented the South West on the Council for the last three years. I keep members informed via a blog that I write. Please visit <http://coopsw.blogspot.co.uk/> see how I have been reporting on the work of the Council since I have been elected.

I have not only been involved with retail Co-operatives. My involvement with the Co-operative Movement extends to founding a rural car co-operative in 2002, getting involved with North Somerset Savings and Loan, a financial co-op and more recently as Chair of Clevedon Community Book Co-op. In summary- A vote for me would be a vote to put the owners' voice at the heart of the Co-op, and for a vision where the

Co-op is at the heart of our local community.

Please feel free to contact me on harriotts26@gmail.com, if you would like to ask me a question.

Thank you for reading this election address and for your support in this election.



Sean Edward-Playne

Occupation Civil Servant

Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food

Summary Address

I have forged a Civil Service career as an ambassador for diversity, and a spokesperson for our ethical Code, helping those who see injustice and wrong doing to find their voice and speak up, and in turn become advocates for others to do the same. My success at this I believe, lies in my passionate belief that we can all make a difference, and nobody's contribution need be of any less value than anybody elses.

Additional Address

I believe the greatest challenge of our time is that presented by the changing climate and how we leave the world for our children. The answers, I believe lie with each and every one of us and the commitments that we make, no matter how small, to making a difference. As somebody who has also successfully run a small enterprise, I know that these aspirations are not incompatible with the needs of business, and I believe that the successes of the future will be those companies that now see the need for change.



Colleague Member

Craig Clarke

Occupation Customer Team Member

Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food

Summary Address

Crucially I believe work is good for everyone, regardless of personal obstacles. I believe the Co-op can provide work for all abilities provided good will is shown. I believe the Co-op can stay competitive by being cooperative. I believe our pensions need to be protected. Those are the main reasons I would like to be a member of the Council and would be very grateful for your vote. Thank you.

Additional Address

In chronological order I have worked in: Shops, hotels, pubs, call centres, local council, civil service and for myself.

Working for a Co-op food store for the last 3 and a half years has shown me what can be done regardless of obstacles.

I believe the Co-op way is sustainable. Its sustainability will make it stable and its stability that I seek in any employer.



John Lake

Occupation Nurse

Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food and Funeralcare

Summary Address

My professional Job is to ensure that people living with dementia are nursed to the highest standards of care, as often these people are unable to voice their needs. I am the voice of Staff Council ensuring that all staff are looked after in the best possible ways. I meet with management regularly to ensure best practice is maintained for all staff at all times. I passionately believe in ensuring highest quality standards.

Additional Address

My name is John and my professional job is to ensure that people living with Dementia are nursed to the highest standards of care often these people are unable to voice their needs.

I am the voice of people and I am well used to meeting with managing directors and other high ranking company officials.

I am well versed in ensuring that optimum standards and that people do get the best whatever the individual circumstances are. I will ensure that I gain the trust to upkeep standards and to ensure customer satisfaction and to promote the highest possible standards of service, quality and pricing so that the customer is always the priority at all times.



Mark Smith

Occupation Chief Engineer

Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food

Summary Address

I am a professional Senior Engineering Manager providing over 30 years' engineering and business experience in both the defence and commercial sectors. I bring an open and enthusiastic personality with discipline for governance and organisational transparency. I am a firm believer in the Co-op values and principles, and fully support my local food store and all the high-street stores that are invaluable to their communities. I will ensure that members' interests are represented.

Additional Address

I have served on various boards in my professional life, including our Charity Partnership, and in my personal life, such as for New Tripoli Fire Company and Northwestern Ambulance Corps. (Both in Pennsylvania, USA).

I am a member of three professional engineering institutions and regularly participate in their work and continuing professional development.

I have been a Chief Engineer of a FTSE-100 company in two disparate disciplines.

I currently hold a Senior Management position at a FTSE-250 company.



Paul Johnson

Occupation Principal Specialist

Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food and Funeralcare

Summary Address

Passionate supporter of the Co-op's democratic, ethical, quality and community values. Strong experience of developing and leading national public interest projects in the government sector. I've worked both in task and finish groups and as part of large teams. I feel the human side of our business is fundamental. Want to find ways for our stores to source even fresher fruit and veg etc in more remote areas like Devon and Cornwall, where I live.

Additional Address

I was awarded the MBE in 2002 for services to the rural environment, in recognition of my work to protect commons and village greens. My career has among other things centred on creating new local open spaces such as millennium greens, serving towns and villages throughout the country; and new rights for fellow citizens to enjoy mountains, moors and now the coast, through the current national project to create the England Coast Path.

I have regularly taken part in fundraising events within my local community in support of good causes like the village hall and the lifeboats. The Co-op's strong community focus is a key reason for my wanting to get involved on its national Council.

I think I could make an active contribution to the Council's work because of my long experience of working with and through others; a facility for lateral thinking, asking challenging questions and identifying constructive solutions; and the core qualities I've developed through my career such as good judgement, an ability to see the big picture, influencing skills, and diplomacy. I've been really impressed with what I've seen online about the Council's work, and feel I could fit in well with its structures and make a positive input.

I would see it as a great privilege to be allowed to represent the interests and views of my fellow Co-op members in the South West of England, and to draw the attention of the national business where necessary to the particular needs and challenges faced by the area, especially in its more remote corners.

Should I be elected, I will set up a dedicated social media presence for this purpose, to ensure I can be as well informed as possible about the needs and views of my fellow South West Co-op members. Please help me to help you! Thank you.



Current Council Member

Marlene Corbey

Occupation Retired

Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food, Insurance and Electrical

Summary Address

I joined The Co-op 1976 and shop regularly with Co-op Food, Insurance, Phone-coop, Energy and E-store. Elected 2009, I have represented our members on local and national committees. Working extensively, with food and Funeralcare across Wiltshire, I have engaged with our members, encouraging, building confidence and raising awareness of the potential of their influence. By identifying members' priorities, both personal and for their communities, we can ensure every voice is heard, employees, members and customers.

Additional Address

A lifelong and dedicated co-operator, elected to Wilts and Dorset Area Committee in 2009 and our National Members' Council in 2015, I have been fully involved in the development of our democracy and have regularly worked with store managers to ensure that our colleague's and member's voices are heard.

Currently the only elected member for Wilts and Dorset I have supported community activities across the entire area including Salisbury, Corsham, Trowbridge, Melksham, Devizes, Bradford-on-Avon, Fordingbridge, Weymouth and Amesbury. These activities have included in-store member engagement and 'tastings', the promotion of Our Causes, Fairtrade, Green Schools and support for environmental and community issues specifically identified by our members.

The Co-op is continually changing to adapt to the market in which we operate. Challenges will always remain but, as a trusted organisation, our members need to feel confident that their input is valued and has an impact on securing the long-term future of the Co-op - the UK's leading ethical retailer.

I believe that as the understanding and appreciation of our co-operative difference grows, progress will continue to be made to ensure our communities can work together for the benefit of all. The input of local knowledge, which our members bring, is an important building-block in this process.

I would welcome the opportunity to continue to be part of this journey, ensuring that we remain true to our values and principles which have guided us since 1844, and would ask for your support by voting for me.

- Wiltshire & Dorset Area Committee 2009 - Chair 2012-15
- South West Region Values and Principles Committee 2010-15
- Regional Board and Values and Principles at Group level 2013-2014

- Member Learner User Group SW representative 2012-15
- Chair of Transitional Council Governance Committee 2014-2015
- Chair of our Member's Meeting in Salisbury and Bristol
- Currently a fully contributing member on the 'Our people and Remuneration - Wellbeing' Committee
- Diploma in Co-operation - updated with 2019 modules including Governance, Understanding Financial Information, Diversity, Effective Management, Working Together Effectively



Clive Moore

Occupation Retired

Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food and Insurance

Summary Address

I am an active volunteer in the local community, mainly involved in hospital transport, four days a week. I have served as a member of Great Western Trains Pension Committee, six years. I have a desire to bring my local community and surrounding area together in many ways, to uphold and to be involved in the principles of the Co-op. Especially the youth who so often get overlooked and their voices not heard.

Additional Address

I have a very keen interest in the inclusion of young people in all kinds of projects. Until recently I have spent six years as an Appropriate Adult on behalf of Somerset County Council and Avon and Somerset Constabulary. This has provided me with a huge amount of experience in both the good and bad in our society and I am in a position to put wealth of experience to good use for the better of my local community and bring this experience to the Members' Council.



Brian McAuley

Occupation Semi-retired Volunteer

Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food

Summary Address

I have been a Co-op member for many years and also bank with the Co-op. I have experience in monitoring budgets and following objectives. I support the Fairtrade ethos of the Co-op and actively choose the recipients of the good causes. I have been a school governor at my children's primary school. I have been a trade unionist all my working life and stood, unsuccessfully, for the Labour Party at the district Council elections.

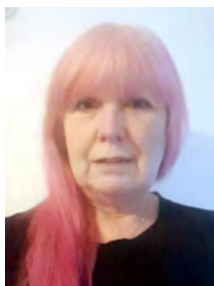
Additional Address

I finished my last full time job as a Social Care manager in May 2019, this post included managing a team of support workers and setting goals for the time limited reablement of hospital discharge patients. I started off my working life as an Electrician and worked for a period of self employment in this role.

I have been a Housing Officer for a national housing association and have managed supported housing provision for clients with mental health issues and learning disabilities.

I am presently offering service as a Coordinator in a Buddhist retreat centre and I am exploring other voluntary options in my community.

I believe I have the time and enthusiasm to represent South West members and I ask for your vote.



Sandra Mitchell

Occupation Customer Team Leader

Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food and Insurance

Summary Address

I grew up in Gloucestershire, in a working class family. I moved to Cornwall 29 years ago. I'm married with 6 children, 9 grandchildren and hold very strong family values. I've worked for Co-op for 14 years, Usdaw representative for 4 years and Member Pioneer for 3 years, Deputy Mayor and Sunday School teacher. My passion is to help my local community and to uphold the values and principles of the Co-op.

Current Council Member

Colleague Member & Member Pioneer

Additional Address

I've been on the Council for three years and sit on two committees. Member Voice, and the Members' Advisory Committee, discussing all aspects of membership, our Join In Live events and the digital membership page, how to improve it all.

I've also attended many training courses, such as Chairing a Meeting, Working Together Effectively, Public Speaking, Understanding Financial Decisions, and Meaningful Membership. I have also had a tour of Toad Lane, Rochdale, where it all began. I've attended conferences from Co-operative Party and Co-operatives UK. This has all helped me in my role on Council and given me tools to perform more effectively.

I am part of Council's Colleague Network and any colleague issues are reported here, then passed onto Senate to take forward. My dual role on Council and USDAW helps with this. I attend meetings with other USDAW reps and Area/Regional Managers. This provides upcoming information as well as colleagues working issues. We have behaviour strategies in place in stores, our Ways of Being and it's important to make sure these are followed.

I like calling into Co-op stores when I am out and about and chatting to colleagues and customers. I take regular weekend breaks in the West Country so this gives me good opportunities to visit stores.

I care about my community. With my many roles doing as much as possible for people around me, especially those without a voice. We've "hidden people" who don't interact with society and so suffer alone. I feel challenged to reach them. Our partnership with MIND will help us do this. I'm an active fundraiser and have completed 2 skydives, a hot coal walk, ice bucket challenge and have a forthcoming European Car Rally but I still love a cake sale. Over the last few years, my team and I have raised over £15,000 for local charities. The Co-op always support me in this.

I'm adamant that we should live up to our values and principles. We should "be who we say we are". For that reason, I am willing to challenge at Directors' Forums when things are not right. I've spoken about colleagues hours but also about interaction with our members, keeping them better informed. Realising not everyone is into the digital world. Understanding what happens when a community loses their local store.

Sadly I've missed two meetings over my term due to important family events. But if re- elected, I will continue to do my best for you.



Irene Ermelli

Occupation Teacher

Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food and Insurance

Summary Address

A retired Teacher from full-time education (in the subjects of Performing Arts, Theatre and English) I still teach small groups in yoga/pilates and confidence building skills. I enjoy playing tennis, golf, walking and reading (a variety of different genres). My 35 years' experience of working with colleagues, parents and students, most of those as Head of Department, have enabled me to manage the many problems that arise in day-to-day as well as policy making decisions.

Additional Address

I am passionate about recycling and using the earth's resources in a sensitive, considered way which is why I enjoy shopping at the Co-op. Of course there are still things which could be improved and I believe in asking and listening to the Public for their contributions and comments in order to move forward towards a sustainable, caring, yet productive environment.



Andrew Mullen

Occupation Self Employed Actor and Company Director
Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food
Summary Address

A retired Naval Officer now running his own company supporting charities and small businesses in Devon and Cornwall. A long-term supporter and fan of the Co-op he strongly supports their ethos and values loudly applauding their commitment to local communities and causes. Co-op's value is only matched by the excellent quality of their own brand products supported by strong environmental policies. It would be my privilege and pleasure to represent you on the Members' Council.

Additional Address

I retired after 31 years as a logistics officer in the Royal Navy in 2004 as the Logistics Commander for Devonport Naval Base. Now running my own small business working with charities and small businesses I am interested in people, in variety and flexibility, in problem solving and team working and the feeling of satisfaction in a job well done. These are all my drivers and key attributes which will be deployed as a member of the Co-op Members' Council. I have many skills and a great deal of experience from working in the public, voluntary and private sectors and it would be a pleasure to deploy these skills in support of the Co-op Society as a Council Member.

I am local to Cornwall and my home has remained in Liskeard throughout my life and I have long been a member of our local Co-op and a user of Co-op Banking Services. I, like them, am a strong supporter of local organisations and activities.

Among my many interests and skills are:

- Excellent administrative and organisational skills.
- Prince 2 Project Management
- Trained in Media Handling
- Excellent working knowledge of all MS Office applications
- Fully conversant with web based and networked IT systems
- Full Clean Driving Licence
- Horse Riding on Bodmin Moor
- Professional Acting
- Professional Television work.
- Sailing: Qualified Yacht Coastal Skipper.
- Hill Walking: Qualified Unit Expedition Leader (Summer)
- Liskeard Arts Society Member
- Member of the Liskeard Chamber of Commerce
- Member of the Federation of Small Businesses

I have the time, capacity and interest to take up this opportunity, should it be offered, and it would enable me to use my wide and diverse skills in support of the Co-operative Society.

I am a naturally good leader, manager, organiser and administrator used to producing high grade work punctually and to a consistently high standard. I have excellent interpersonal skills and I am an able communicator both on paper and verbally. I am computer literate in all required areas including financial modelling, implementation issues and strict budget requirements. I have worked closely with the fundraising, marketing and communications teams within a large and successful national charity and held management responsibility for PR and marketing in a regional development charity.

My approach is open and collegiate, I am a confirmed team player and I enjoy working in a multi-faceted organisation and am very used to prioritising my work whilst being able to react and respond flexibly to sudden or unexpected changes or challenges.

In summary, I can offer a wide range of relevant skills all of which are eminently transferable and deploy-able in support of the role of member of the Co-op Members' Council.



Nicola Huckerby

Occupation Director

Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food

Summary Address

In 2010 I worked in the Group's Membership Team, promoting the Co-operative values and principles in the Plymouth and Torbay areas. Today, I live near Exeter and work with Bristol and Plymouth City Council's. I am a member of six co-operatives, actively promoting our business model where I can. I am unashamedly proud of my co-operative credentials. It would be an honour for me to represent you, ensuring that your voice is heard.

Additional Address

It would be an honour for me to represent you and to be your voice on the National Members' Council.

Living in Bovey Tracey I am very fortunate to be able to shop in my local Co-op Food store which, having taken over a derelict restaurant, has quickly become the main retailer on the high street. The town now has a number of community-led businesses and the Co-op's ethical credentials ensure that it plays an active part in community life. I do both my personal and business banking with the Co-operative Bank, which although no longer part of the Group, share its ethics and values.

My co-operative credentials include being a director of Bovey Futures, a director of Co-operatives South West and a member of several consumer co-operatives. It is this experience at a local, national and international level that I would bring to the Members' Council.

The Co-op Group is one of the largest 300 co-operatives in the world. I am keen to work with Members to ensure that it maintains its ethical values and stays true to the co-operative ideals of the Rochdale Pioneers in 1844. My co-operative experience at an international level has given me insights into how the movement works at a global level and the esteemed position that the Group has amongst co-operators across the world with its unique history and roots.

My co-operative journey began as Membership and Co-operative Officer for the Co-operative Group in South Devon; educating Members about the co-operative values and principles and encouraging active engagement in the business. Early in 2011 I won a secondment to the International Co-operative Alliance in Geneva, co-ordinating the United Nations International Year of Co-operatives 2012. That Year culminated with 'Co-operatives United', where 12000 co-operators from 82 countries descended on Manchester to celebrate the co-operative way of doing business. We may have met there!

I then went on to manage the development, launch and delivery of the global Co-operative Marque, a logo which is currently used by co-operatives in over 100 countries and which was launched in Cape Town.

Today, I run my own business, promoting the co-operative business model with a desire that it should become mainstream. I manage the membership, communications and events for the Co-operative Councils' Innovation Network (CCIN) which currently comprises 26 Councils (including Bristol and Plymouth), 21 Associate Members and 17 Affiliate Members from across the UK. In 2019 I worked with the Co-operative College co-ordinating their Centenary Celebrations.

I hope that you will vote for me.

You can follow me on Twitter @NicolaHuckerby.



Tanya Brownridge

Occupation Partner

Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food

Summary Address

I am really interested in the running of the Society and keen to have an input in ensuring it's longevity and continued success as it is so important to our local community.

Additional Address

I have over 25 years' experience in Financial Control and Operations in both the Public and Private sector. I have been in my current role for 10 years now and lead the Operations and Administration team of a busy construction consultancy with 6 offices in the South West of England and London. I am responsible for financial management, premises, IT, Insurance, administration, payroll and HR. I drive the development and implementation of company strategies, policies and practices for all of our offices.

I am born and bred in Plymouth and local issues are very important to me. With 2 very active children I am often found supporting at the side-lines of a football pitch or in the gallery of a swimming pool! I am also a Board Director and Treasurer for Plymouth Leander Swimming Association (Voluntary Role).



Scott Allen

Occupation Assistant Manager

Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food and Insurance

Summary Address

As a food store colleague of 22 years, it has been an absolute honour to serve on the National Members' Council. I spend 39 hours a week interacting with colleagues and customers. I want to continue as an ambassador for the most important people, colleagues and customers.

Current Council Member
Colleague Member

Additional Address

Five years ago I asked for your vote. I wanted to represent my colleagues and our customers, ensuring those that make the big decisions, understand how they impact those that matter most. I feel I have honoured that pledge and have ensured colleagues feelings and thoughts are passed back to those in head office. I have passed on customers thoughts, expectations and concerns.

It has been an absolute pleasure to represent colleagues and customers. This is my 22nd year working in a Co-op food store, 39 hours a week rubbing shoulders with the most important people. If we neglect our colleagues or fail to meet our customers needs, we will almost certainly be in a very bad place. So my pledge, if re-elected is to continue to be an ambassador for colleagues and customers feedback. I don't intend to be a passenger and at 38, this is not a pension top up.

I am passionate and care immensely about where I work, the conditions my colleagues work in and the environment my customers shop in. I am very fortunate that in my time serving on Council, I have made some great relationships to channel feedback in the right way.

I have only missed a couple meetings over the last five years, due to holiday. I serve on the Ethical and Sustainable Leadership Committee and would like to take on more responsibility in the future.

Away from stacking beans, serving customers and leading a team, I keep myself active. I am a keen runner and enjoy challenging myself to run marathons abroad. I am very fortunate to have run 27 international marathons. I lead a Plymouth running club called "Ocean City" and am a patron for a cardio charity called Plymouth Heartbeat.

Thank you for taking the time to read my information.

Scott



Ekaterina Vasileva

Occupation Marketing Manager

Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food

Summary Address

I feel passionate about our local communities, particularly about the voice of young people and people who have migrated here from abroad - I am committed to making a difference every day, however small it may be. I want to make sure that your voice matters and that your concerns are addressed.

Additional Address

None



Jonathan Charlesworth

Occupation Charity Executive Director

Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food

Summary Address

I am passionate about ethical farming, food's provenance and the responsibility food retailers have towards arable and agricultural farming and our environment. Raised in a local rural county and now living in a city I have good understanding of the philosophies of rural and urban cultures. With extensive experience of sales, marketing, advertising and financial accountability I am mindful of the Co-op's need to set financial return against an honourable attitude towards suppliers and customers.

Additional Address

As a former school Head of Department, and subsequently the Executive Director of a successful national charity, I've wide-ranging awareness of the private, statutory and voluntary sector. I have knowledge and experience of the shop floor and people management. My HR skills will prove useful in discussions regarding the workforce and staffing matters: remaining up-to-date concerning employment and food retail matters.

With a genuine interest in all that the Co-op stands for I'd make a reliable ambassador and positive role model. I've been organised and responsible throughout my career: demonstrating sound judgement in decision making based on informed opinions. I am mindful of the constantly changing world of legislation and am particularly attuned to matters of inclusion, equality and diversity. I'd represent members' views effectively - being able to articulate others' arguments in a diplomatic and respectful manner.

I'm used to working in small and large teams and am confident to ask challenging questions where accountability is required. I have a sound understanding of the Co-op's basic democratic structure, its commitment to egalitarianism and what it offers to its community of customers.

Computer literate and demonstrating daily use of social media platforms and digital communications, I'm enthusiastic to play an active role in participating in working groups convened discretely from Council meetings, get involved in local member events and collate feedback on local issues.

I've always been a passionate supporter of the values upheld by the Co-op most notably it being the first high street supermarket to champion the non-sale of battery (caged bird) eggs in 2008.



Graham Slack

Occupation Internet Retailer

Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food

Summary Address

I have a depth of experiences that would allow me to be an active and valuable contributor to the Members' Council. My training was in Agriculture. Quality sustainable food production is essential to my views, values and principles. More recently I had developed and now sold an 'Online' and High Street successful store. Although small, it enabled me to understand the needs of both Highstreet and Online Customers. Questions to ghslack@hotmail.com. Thank you, Graham Slack.

Additional Address

My agricultural career gave me a deep insight into food production. I developed a beef system on our farm on the Somerset Levels. We only needed to bring protein on to the farm, all other feed was grown on Farm. Prior to the beef enterprise I ran an outdoor pig unit. There are many aspects of Food production that need to be addressed with particular reference to the needs of customers. Very simply, we need to encourage change for the benefit of all.

While farming I also became involved in education, not only lecturing to degree level course but also local Schools. I believe that education about food production and preparation can play a vital role in our health and environment. I would hope that the Co-op can help develop these values. As a member of the Members' Council I would do my best to encourage this.

National businesses have a responsibility to local communities. It is wonderful that the Co-op does just that with their Local Causes initiative. I am very involved in Local Causes myself. At present I am working alongside a sailing trust to have every child in our local school experience an 'Out of the classroom life changing adventure'. An adventure that will give them so much more than the grind of the classroom. Confidence is a subject that can be given not taught. A sea passage by sail can do just this. The causes supported by the Co-op and the Local Causes initiative both need to be supported and encouraged. I will do just that.

Most recently my wife, Julia, and I have just sold our high street and online business. Birdkids is a children's shop that developed out of a need for products not usually found in the more 'Commercial' childrens stores. This gave me an understanding of the service and expectation customers have for both high street shopping and online shopping. I can share my 15 years of experience in retail. I am no Retail Guru, it's no secret what customers want. It's simply 'Honesty'. Customers want honesty in everything from production of product, honesty about the values, views

and principles of a business and honesty in the service a business gives. Recently 'Honesty' has been undermined in our lives, the Co-op can help lead the way in bringing back honesty to our lives.

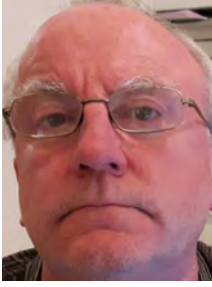
I do get enjoyment from contributing to local causes. I am Chairman of the group that organises the sailing in Fowey, Cornwall. We also run the Sailing during the local Regatta week. This takes a lot of planning over the year and teamwork is essential. Working as a team makes things happen. Individual views are a vital part of a team decision but respect for views of others are how a team comes to a 'Good' decision.

I would be delighted to help the Co-op and their customers to achieve its objectives.

I have the time and energy to do this.

Thank you

Graham



Stephen Hennessy

Occupation CEO

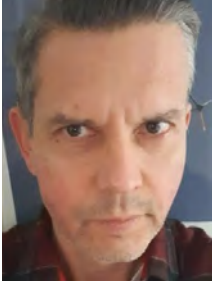
Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food

Summary Address

I am 61 with a background working in care and social work. I am now CEO of Stepping Out Theatre, a mental health theatre company and registered charity which I helped to set up 23 years ago to bring the healing power of the arts, and theatre in particular, to those recovering from mental health problems through a spirit of co-operation and community (www.stepsoutingtheatre.co.uk). I am a lifelong Co-op shopper and bank customer.

Additional Address

I am a playwright with over 20 plays performed on stage, broadcast on radio and published ('Lullabies of Broadmoor' Oberon Books, 2013). I am a Labour Party member, having stood in five local Council elections, from an Irish working class background, and with a passion for nature, walking and travel.



Jens Haus

Occupation Subtitler

Co-op Businesses traded with in last 12 months Food

Summary Address

I care passionately about ethical trade, the environment as well as equality in all aspects of life, be it within my local community, on a national or on a global level. Being of dual British and German citizenship, I bring a different perspective when it comes to finding solutions and new approaches.

Additional Address

None



It's what we do

We can provide publications in large print, audio and other formats

If you require a copy of these documents in any other format or if you have trouble accessing the additional information online, please email us at councilelections@coop.co.uk, call us on **0800 023 4708** or write to us at **Co-op Membership, Department 10703, 1 Angel Square, Manchester M60 0AG**