

Co-operative Models

Joanne Elston - Co-operate Scotland

**Co-operate
Scotland**

What is a co-operative?

A way of running a business:

- Independent
- Owned and controlled by members
- One member one vote
 - Regardless of financial investment

7 co-op principles

What are the benefits of being a co-op?

- Employee retention and productivity
- Community/ member engagement
 - Can steer the co-op to do the things you want it to
- Makes the most of collective knowledge
- Keeps money local

Legal forms

- Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation
- Company Limited by Guarantee
- Community Interest Company
- Limited Liability Partnership
- Co-operative Society
- Community Benefit Society



Co-operatives

- For the benefit of the members

Example:

Everyone living on street A decides to collectively buy their energy to benefit from bulk buy discounts

Community Benefit Society

- For the benefit of the wider community

Example:

A rural community decides to set up a shop so that locals can access good, healthy food.

Although some people are members, you don't need to be a member to shop there