



What is a co-operative?

A co-operative is a type of organisation.



A co-operative is run by its members.



People choose to become a member.



The aim of a co-operative is to make life better for the members.



Every member has an equal say.



Every member has an equal vote.



What makes something a co-operative?



These things are true for **all** co-operatives:



1. Anyone can join a co-operative.



No-one can make you join a co-operative.



2. Every member has an equal say and an equal vote.



3. Every member has an equal say about how the co-operative uses its money.



4. No-one except the members can tell a co-operative what to do.



5. Co-operatives help people to learn, get new skills and find out information.



6. Co-operatives help each other



7. Co-operatives care about the community



What matters to co-operatives?



Self help

Every member helps other members and helps themselves



Self-responsibility

Every member helps run the co-operative.



Democracy

Every member has one vote.



Equality

All members have equal rights.



Equity

All members are treated fairly



Solidarity

All members support each other and other co-operatives