## Co-operate: It's what we do Our Sustainability Report 2020 GRI Index



GRI Standard	Disclosure	Description	Response							
General disclosure	es									
GRI 102: General	102-1	Name of the organisation	The Co-operative Group Ltd.							
Disclosures 2016	102-2	Activities, brands, products, and services	About us (p. 4).							
	102-3	Location of headquarters	About us (p. 4).							
	102-4	Location of operations	We operate only in the UK and the Isle of Man.							
	102-5	Ownership and legal form	We are registered in the UK under the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act, 2014. Find our more about Co-ops here: www.co-operative.coop/about-us/what-is-a-coop							
-	102-6	Markets served	About us (p. 4). We operate only in the UK and the Isle of Man.							
	102-7	Scale of the organisation	No. colleagues/market-About us (p. 2). Net sales-Annual Report 2020. Total capitalisation-Annual Report 2020.							
	102-8	Information on employees and other workers	Data is calculated by the HR data team and based on head count rather than Full Time Equivalent.							
		Breakdown-Gender / Contract Type	Male         Female         Group           Regular         Temporary         Unknown         Total         Regular         Temporary         Unknown         Total         Regular         Temporary         Unknown         Total           27,034         992         117         28,143         33,895         1,212         74         35,181         60,929         2,204         191         63,324							
		Breakdown-Contract Type / Region	England         Scotland         Wales         Northern Ireland         Isle of Man         Unknown         Total         England         Scotland         Wales         Northern Ireland         Isle of Man         Unknown         Total           48,013         8,136         3,164         548         251         817         60,929         1,740         294         137         16         9         8         2,204							
			Unknown  England Scotland Wales Northern Isle Unknown Total England Scotland Wales Northern Isle Unknown Total							
			125 16 4 1 45 191 49,878 8,446 3,305 565 260 870 63,324							
		Breakdown-Gender / FT-PT	Male Female Group							
			FT PT Total FT PT Total FT PT Total FT PT Total 12,702 15,441 28,143 6,999 28,182 35,181 19,701 43,623 63,324							
		Breakdown-Overall Totals	Regular/Temporary Temporary / Contractor Employees payrolled Employees payrolled through the Co-op through Rullion  63,324 318							

GRI Standard	Disclosure	Description	Response
General disclosure	es		
GRI 102: General Disclosures 2016	102-9	Supply chain	We focus on our Co-op Food supply chain and our Goods Not for Resale suppliers. Ethical Trade and Human Rights (pp. 45-48) Responsible Procurement (pp. 53-54) Supporting British farmers (pp. 55-56) Local Sourcing (p. 57) Climate Change (pp. 61-68) Sustainable Sourcing (pp. 69-72)
	102-10	Significant changes to the organisation and its supply chain	Business change (p. 13).
	102-11	Precautionary Principle or approach	How we manage ethics, sustainability and community (p. 14). Our approach to risk management means we do not take strategic or operational decisions without due consideration of social and environmental impacts.
	102-12	External initiatives	We subscribe to a variety of initiatives and these are referenced throughout our Report in the relevant sections.
	102-13	Membership of associations	Breakdown of financial support for the co-operative movement (p. 80). Trade and business association membership fees (p. 58).
	102-14	Statement from senior decision-maker	CEO statement (p. 6).
	102-15	Key impacts, risks, and opportunities	Our sustainability priorities and our approach to prioritisation are outlined in Our Reporting section pp. 10-13).
	102-16	Values, principles, standards, and norms of behaviour	Our Approach (pp. 8-9) Membership and co-operation (pp. 20-24).
	102-17	Mechanisms for advice and concerns about ethics	Our Code of Business Conduct details the mechanisms for seeking advice on ethical and lawful behaviour, including access to line management and helplines.  Speak Up (p. 41).
	102-18	Governance structure	Oversight of our responsible business approach (p.14) and Membership and co-operation (pp. 20-24). www.co-operative.coop/about-us/board-and-directors
	102-40	List of stakeholder groups	Our stakeholders (p. 11).
	102-41	Collective bargaining agreements	All colleagues other than the most senior managers in the business are covered by collective bargaining arrangements; this equates to in excess of 99% of all colleagues.
	102-42	Identifying and selecting stakeholders	Our stakeholders (p. 11).
	102-43	Approach to stakeholder engagement	Our reporting (pp. 10-13)
	102-44	Key topics and concerns raised	Our approach (pp. 8-9) Our reporting (pp. 10-13) Public policy engagement (pp. 76-78)

GRI Standard	Disclosure	Description	Response
General disclosure	es		
GRI 102: General Disclosures 2016	102-45	Entities included in the consolidated financial statements	Annual Report 2020. Our Co-operate Report covers those businesses wholly owned by the Co-operative Group Limited as at 5 January 2020. (Our reporting, pp. 10-13).
	102-46	Defining report content and topic Boundaries	Our reporting (pp. 10-13).
	102-47	List of material topics	Our approach (pp. 8-9) Our reporting (pp. 10-13)
	102-48	Restatements of information	Where data has been restated, for example when a methodology for calculating data has changed or an inaccuracy identified, this is indicated by the following symbol: (R) and where necessary, additional detail about restatements is also given.
	102-49	Changes in reporting	Performance relates to the 52 week year ending 2 January 2021 (unless otherwise stated) and to our operations and stakeholders. It covers those businesses wholly owned by the Co-operative Group Limited as at 4 January 2021.
	102-50	Reporting period	Performance relates to the 52 week year ending 2 January 2020 (unless otherwise stated).
	102-51	Date of most recent report	April 2020.
	102-52	Reporting cycle	Our Report is published annually.
	102-53	Contact point for questions regarding the report	Back cover. sustainability.report@coop.co.uk
	102-54	Claims of reporting in accordance with the GRI Standards	This Report has been prepared in accordance with the GRI Standards: Core option.
	102-55	GRI content index	This table sets out the Standard Disclosure locations.
	102-56	External assurance	Our reporting (p. 13). Assurance Statement (pp. 106-107).

GRI Standard	Disclosure	Description	Response
Topic specific dis	closures		
Economic perform	mance		
GRI 103: Management	103-1	Explanation of the material topic and its Boundary	
approach 2016	103-2	The management approach and its components	Annual Report 2020. Business Ethics (pp. 15-18 and pp. 74-78). Our reporting (pp. 10-13).
	103-3	Evaluation of the management approach	
GRI 201: Economic	201-1	Direct economic value generated and distributed	Distribution of economic value added (£m) (p. 79). Annual Report 2020.
performance 2016	201-3	Defined benefit plan obligations and other retirement plans	Our People (p. 41). Annual Report 2020.
Procurement pra	ctices		
GRI 103: Management	103-1	Explanation of the material topic and its Boundary	Responsible Procurement (pp. 53-54 and p. 95).
approach 2016	103-2	The management approach and its components	Supporting British Farmers (pp. 55-56 and p. 95). Sustainable Sourcing (pp. 69-72 and p. 102-104). Ethical Trade and Human Rights (p. 45-47 and pp. 90-92).
	103-3	Evaluation of the management approach	We include relevant performance benchmarks throughout the Report.
GRI 204: Procurement practices 2016	204-1	Proportion of spending on local suppliers	Whilst we don't report the percentage of the procurement budget spent on local suppliers, we do report on our approach to supporting British farmers and growers through our Farming Groups, and local suppliers. Responsible Procurement (pp. 53-54 and p. 95), Supporting British farmers (pp. 55-56) and Local sourcing (p. 57).
Tax			
GRI 103: Management	103-1	Explanation of the material topic and its Boundary	
approach 2016	103-2	The management approach and its components	Business Ethics (pp. 15-18 and pp. 74-78). Annual Report 2020. We include relevant performance benchmarks throughout the Report.
	103-3	Evaluation of the management approach	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
GRI 207: Tax	207 - 1	Approach to tax	
2019	207-2	Tax governance	Business Ethics (pp. 15-18 and pp. 74-78). Annual Report 2020.
	207-3	Stakeholder engagement and management of concerns related to tax	Stakeholder engagement and governance of our Tax strategy are outlined in our tax policy which can be found here www.co-operative.coop/ethics/tax-policy/

GRI Standard	Disclosure	Description	Response		
Topic specific disc	losures				
Materials					
GRI 103: Management	103-1	Explanation of the material topic and its Boundary	- Resource use (pp. 66-68 and pp. 100-101).		
approach 2016	103-2	The management approach and its components	Sustainable Sourcing (pp. 69-72) and pp. 102-105). Our reporting (pp. 10-13).		
	103-3	Evaluation of the management approach	We include relevant performance benchmarks throughout the Report.		
GRI 301: Materials 2016	301-1	Materials used by weight or volume	Sustainable Sourcing (pp. 69-72 and pp. 102-105) - reporting in relation to wood, palm oil, peat and soy.		
	301-2	Recycled input materials used	Sustainable Sourcing (p. 67 and pp. 69-72 and p. 100) - reporting in relation to wood.		
Energy					
GRI 103: Management	103-1	Explanation of the material topic and its Boundary			
approach 2016	103-2	The management approach and its components	Our reporting (pp. 10-13). Climate Change (pp. 61-65 and pp. 97-99). We include relevant performance benchmarks throughout the Report.		
	103-3	Evaluation of the management approach			
GRI 302: Energy 2016	302-1	Energy consumption within the organisation	Climate Change (pp. 97-99).		
	302-4	Reduction of energy consumption	Climate Change (pp. 97-99).		
Water and effluen	ts				
GRI 103: Management	103-1	Explanation of the material topic and its Boundary			
approach 2016	103-2	The management approach and its components	Our reporting (p. 47). Resource use and sustainable sourcing (pp. 65-68 and pp. 100-101).		
	103-3	Evaluation of the management approach			
GRI 303:Water and effluents	303-1	Interactions with water as a shared resource	Sustainable Sourcing (p. 71 and pp. 102-105).		
2018	303-5	Water consumption	Resource use (pp. 66-68 and pp. 100-101).		

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GRI Standard	Disclosure	Description	Response			
Topic specific disc	losures					
Biodiversity						
GRI 103: Management	103-1	Explanation of the material topic and its Boundary				
approach 2016	103-2	The management approach and its components	Sustainable Sourcing (pp. 69-72). Our reporting (pp. 10-13). We include relevant performance benchmarks throughout the Report.			
	103-3	Evaluation of the management approach				
GRI 304: Biodiversity 2016	304-2	Significant impacts of activities, products, and services on biodiversity	Supporting British farmers (pp. 55-56) Sustainable Sourcing (pp. 69-72 and pp. 102-105)			
Emissions						
GRI 103: Management	103-1	Explanation of the material topic and its Boundary	- Our approach (pp. 8-9).			
approach 2016	103-2	The management approach and its components	Climate Change (pp. 61-65 and pp. 97-99) and pp. 62-65). Our reporting (pp. 10-13).			
	103-3	Evaluation of the management approach	We include relevant performance benchmarks throughout the Report.			
GRI 305: Emissions 2016	305-1	Direct (Scope 1) GHG emissions	Climate Change (pp. 61-65 and pp. 97-99) We report and set targets for our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions as (tonnes) CO2-equivalent, i.e. including all seven main GHG gases.			
	305-2	Energy indirect (Scope 2) GHG emissions	Climate Change (pp. 61-65 and pp. 97-99) We report and set targets for our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions as (tonnes) CO2-equivalent, i.e. including all seven main GHG gases.			
	305-3	Other indirect (Scope 3) GHG emissions	Climate Change (pp. 1-65 and pp. 97-99) We report and set targets for our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions as (tonnes) CO2-equivalent, i.e. including all seven main GHG gases.			
	305-4	GHG emissions intensity	Annual Report 2020 We report and set targets for our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions as (tonnes) CO2-equivalent, i.e. including all seven main GHG gases.			
	305-5	Reduction of GHG emissions	Climate Change (pp. 61-65 and pp. 97-99) We report and set targets for our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions as (tonnes) CO2-equivalent, i.e. including all seven main GHG gases.			

GRI Standard	Disclosure	Description	Response										
Topic specific dis	closures												
Effluents and was	ste												
GRI 103: Management approach 2016	103-1	Explanation of the material topic and its Boundary	– Our reporting (pp. 10-13).										
	103-2	The management approach and its components	Resource us	e (pp. 10-13). e (pp. 66-68 ai relevant perfoi			ghout the Rep	oort.					
	103-3	Evaluation of the management approach	-										
GRI 306: Waste 2020	306-1	Waste generation and significant waste-related impacts	Resource us	Resource use (pp. 66-68 and pp. 100-101).									
	306-2	Management of significant waste-related impacts	Resource use (pp. 100-101). We don't report a break-down of hazardous waste disposal as hazardous waste represents c.2% of our overall waste.										
	306-3	06-3 Waste generated	Waste by category (t)										
			General	Recycable	Organic	Paper	Plastic	Glass	Hazardous	Metals			Textiles
			11730	528	20249	44700	3794	7	1757	91	28	864	0.05
Employment													
GRI 103: Management	103-1	Explanation of the material topic and its Boundary	Our romantin										
approach 2016	103-2	The management approach and its components	Our People ( Ethical trade	Our reporting (pp. 10-13). Our People (pp. 35-41 and pp. 86-88). Ethical trade and human rights (pp. 45-47 and pp. 90-92).									
	103-3	Evaluation of the management approach	- We include r	relevant perfo	rmance benc	hmarks throu	ghout the Rep	ort.					
GRI 401: Employment	401-1	New employee hires and employee turnover							d gender: Dive Isle of Man bas		clusion (pp. 86-	87). We do n	ot report on
2016	401-2	Benefits provided to full- time employees that are not provided to temporary or part-time employees	Participation The abilit Living Wa The abilit	n in certain ber ty to participat age, National N ty to participat	nefits will rem te in a salary s Minimum Wag te in a closed	ain restricted acrifice arrar ge or below lo Childcare Vo	d where requir gement (Pens ower earnings ucher Scheme	ed by a lega sions or Cycl limit for NI <sub>l</sub> where you	efits regardless al requirement. e to Work) whe ourposes. have not previc cks before they	Our current re to do so v ously done s	restrictions are vould cause pa	e: y to fall belov	w National

GRI Standard	Disclosure	Description	Response			
Topic specific disc	losures					
Labour/managem	ent relations					
GRI 103: Management	103-1	Explanation of the material topic and its Boundary	- Annual Report 2020.			
approach 2016	103-2	The management approach and its components	Our reporting (pp. 10-13). Our People (pp. 35-41).			
	103-3	Evaluation of the management approach	We include relevant performance benchmarks throughout the Report.			
GRI 402: Labour/ management relations 2016	402-1	Minimum notice periods regarding operational changes	Collective agreements do not typically specify the notice required for any operational changes to be made. We endeavour to provide as much notice as possible to major changes, and have a specific Redundancy Agreement which guarantees a 45-day consultation period, unless agreed otherwise. Collective agreements typically refer to notice required to change the collective agreements themselves, which is normally 6 months' notice by either side. The collective agreements also outline the provisions for consultation and negotiation of changes to terms and conditions.			
Occupational hea	lth and safety					
GRI 103: Management	103-1	Explanation of the material topic and its Boundary				
approach 2016	103-2	The management approach and its components	Our reporting (pp. 10-13). Health and safety (pp. 43-44 and p. 89). We include relevant performance benchmarks throughout the Report.			
	103-3	Evaluation of the management approach				
GRI 403: Occupational	403-1	Occupational health and safety management system	Health and Safety (pp. 43-44).			
health and safety 2018	403-2	Hazard identification, risk assessment, and incident investigation	Health and Safety (pp. 43-44). Our Annual Report 2020- Risk register.			
	403-3	Occupational health services	Our People (Wellbeing) (p. 35).			
	403-4	Worker participation, consultation, and communication on occupational health and safety	Our People (Wellbeing) (p. 35) absence support services. Our People (Engagement and recognition) (p. 41).			

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GRI Standard	Disclosure	Description	Response		
Topic specific disc	losures				
Occupational hea	th and safety				
GRI 403:	403-6	Promotion of worker health	Our People (p. 35).		
Occupational health and safety 2018	403-7	Prevention and mitigation of occupational health and safety impacts directly linked by business relationships	Safer Colleagues, Safer communities (p. 42).		
	403-8	Workers covered by an occupational health and safety management system	Our People (Wellbeing) (pp. 35-41). Health and Safety (pp. 43-44 and p. 89).		
	403-9	Work-related injuries	Health and Safety (pp. 43-44 and p. 89).		
	403-10	Work-related ill health	We publish information on reportable accidents and absence rates. The information is not available to include a more detailed breakdown in our published reports.		
Diversity and Equa	al Opportunity				
GRI 103: Management	103-1	Explanation of the material topic and its Boundary			
approach 2016	103-2	The management approach and its components	Our reporting (pp. 10-13). Our People-Inclusion and Diversity (pp. 36-37 and pp. 86-87 and pp. 72-73). We include relevant performance benchmarks throughout the Report.		
	103-3	Evaluation of the management approach			
GRI 405: Diversity and equal opportunity 2016	405-1	Diversity of governance bodies and employees	We report proportions of our colleagues by gender, age, ethnicity, colleagues identifying as Non-heterosexual and disability. Inclusion and Diversity (pp. 86-87).  We outline our approach to ensuring Governance diversity in our 2020 Annual Report.		
Freedom of associ	ation & collec	tive bargaining			
GRI 103: Management	103-1	Explanation of the material topic and its Boundary	Our reporting (pp. 10-13).		
approach 2016	103-2	The management approach and its components	Our People (Engagement and recognition) (pp. 40-41 and p. 88). Ethical trade and human rights (pp. 45-47 and pp. 90-92). Responsible Procurement (pp. 53-54).		
	103-3	Evaluation of the management approach	We include relevant performance benchmarks throughout the Report.		
GRI 407: Freedom of association & collective bargaining 2016	407-1	Operations and suppliers in which the right to freedom of association and collective bargaining may be at risk	As per our Sound Sourcing Code of Conduct we require our suppliers to protect those rights; and suppliers must demonstrate the measures taken to achieve this. Whilst we report the number of non-compliances and monitor implementation of corrective actions, we do not report by operation type or geographic location. Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining form part of our risk criteria which is covered during audits.  Ethical Trade & Human Rights section (pp. 45-47 and pp. 90-92).		

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GRI Standard	Disclosure	Description	Response
Topic specific disc	losures		
Child labour			
GRI 103: Management	103-1	Explanation of the material topic and its Boundary	
approach 2016	103-2	The management approach and its components	Our reporting (pp. 10-13). Ethical trade and human rights (pp. 45-47 and pp. 90-92). We include relevant performance benchmarks throughout the Report.
	103-3	Evaluation of the management approach	
GRI 408: Child labour 2016	408-1	Operations and suppliers at significant risk for incidents of child labour	As per our Sound Sourcing Code of Conduct we do not allow child labour within our supply chain and we report figures relating to incidents that occur and implementation of corrective actions. Our risk criteria and audit process for our supply chain has robust measures to contribute to the effective abolition of child labour. However we do not include supplier information or operation type in our published report. Ethical trade and human rights (p. 45-47 and p. 90-92). For further information - please see our Modern Slavery Statement https://www.co-operative.coop/ethics/modern-slavery.
Forced or compul	sory labour		
GRI 103: Management	103-1	Explanation of the material topic and its Boundary	
approach 2016	103-2	The management approach and its components	Our reporting (pp. 10-13). Ethical trade and human rights (pp. 45-47 and pp. 90-92). We include relevant performance benchmarks throughout the Report.
	103-3	Evaluation of the management approach	
GRI 409: Forced or compulsory labour 2016	409-1	Operations and suppliers at significant risk for incidents of forced or compulsory labour	Ethical trade and human rights (pp. 45-47 and pp. 90-92). We report full details in our Modern Slavery Statement https://www.co-operative.coop/ethics/modern-slavery.
Local communitie	s		
GRI 103: Management	103-1	Explanation of the material topic and its Boundary	- Our approach (pp. 8-9).
approach 2016	103-2	The management approach and its components	Our reporting (pp. 10-13). Communities pp. 25-33).
	103-3	Evaluation of the management approach	We include relevant performance benchmarks throughout the Report.
GRI 413: Local communities 2016	413-1	Operations with local community engagement, impact assessments, and development programs	Examples of stakeholder engagement (p. 11). Our Local Community Fund operates across 100% of the communities in which we operate. Community (pp. 25-33 and pp. 82-85).

GRI Standard	Disclosure	Description	Response			
Topic specific disc	closures					
Public policy						
GRI 103: Management	103-1	Explanation of the material topic and its Boundary	Our approach (pp. 8-9).			
approach 2016	103-2	The management approach and its components	Our reporting (pp. 10-13). Business Ethics (p. 18 and pp. 76-78).			
	103-3	Evaluation of the management approach	We include relevant performance benchmarks throughout the Report.			
GRI 415: Public policy 2016	415-1	Political contributions	Wider public policy work: Business Ethics (p. 18 and pp. 76-78). Support for Co-operative movement (p. 81).			
Customer health	& safety					
GRI 103: Management	103-1	Explanation of the material topic and its Boundary				
approach 2016	103-2	The management approach and its components	Our reporting (pp. 10-13). Healthy living (pp. 58-59) and p. 96). We include relevant performance benchmarks throughout the Report.			
	103-3	Evaluation of the management approach				
GRI 416: Customer health & safety 2016	416-1	Assessment of the health and safety impacts of product and service categories	Healthy living (pp. 58-59 and p. 96).			
	416-2	Incidents of non-compliance concerning the health and safety impacts of products and services	In the event of any concern raised over product safety, our Product Action Notification plan is activated and in some cases our Severe Recalls Decision Map process. Appropriate action is taken and in the event of a product recall the Food Standards Agency or other Enforcement body (as required) is notified and communication channels activated to notify customers. In 2020 we issued 2 product recalls and 19 withdrawals. We're also committed to the safe and responsible use of pesticides. Read more on pesticides in Sustainable Sourcing (pp .71-104).			
Marketing & labe	lling					
GRI 103: Management	103-1	Explanation of the material topic and its Boundary	Our reporting (pp. 10-13).			
approach 2016	103-2	The management approach and its components	Healthy living (pp. 58-59 and p. 96). Sustainable Sourcing (pp. 69-72).			
	103-3	Evaluation of the management approach	We include relevant performance benchmarks throughout the Report.			
GRI 417: Marketing & labelling	417-1	Requirements for product and service information and labelling	Though not expressed as a percentage of our products and services, we do report information on labelling by product type. Fairtrade (pp. 49-51). Healthy living (pp. 58-59 and p. 96). Sustainable Sourcing (pp. 69-72).			
	417-3	Incidents of non-compliance concerning marketing communications	The ASA publishes rulings at: www.asa.org.uk/codes-and-rulings/rulings.html. There were no rulings against us in 2020.			