



MAKE YOUR VOICE COUNT

National Members' Council Elections
London



OWNED BY YOU.
RIGHT BY YOU.

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Denise Scott-McDonald

Co-op Group businesses traded with in last 12 months

Food

1. What do you regard as the most important priority for Co-op in 2025?

The next phase of the successful 'Owned By You, Right By You' campaign, which I have actively supported. It has led to the recent growth in member-owners and increased sales. It highlights what makes our Co-op a different and better way of doing business, because we are owned by our members, and not by profit-driven shareholders. The campaign allows our members to learn and experience more about meaningful membership, and connects our member-owners with each other locally, through events and forums. Therefore, developing better two-way conversations between our members, the business, the Board, Member Activators and the National Members' Council. Which makes good co-operative business sense.

2. How do you demonstrate a commitment to Co-op Values and Principles?

Over the last four years, as president of the National Members' Council of the Co-op Group, I have championed the values and principles for over six million member-owners within the business, across the movement at Co-op Retail Conference, Co-op Congress, and the International Co-op Congress in the wider world. Plus, I am a Co-operative Councillor in Greenwich in South London, where this year, I have actively supported the creation and launch of a Co-operative Commission, an opportunity to embed Co-operative Values and Principles within a local authority focusing on adult social care, energy and local businesses. I am also a member of the Co-op Party, where I have worked alongside other co-operators from across the movement to develop campaigns, come up with ideas, and lobby national government about doubling the size of the co-operative sector.

3. How will you add value to the Members' Council and what skills and experience would you use to do this?

First, I believe I offer continuity. I have been on the Council since 2018 and have been President for almost four years, where I have driven through transformation and change that has benefited our members. Through my leadership, I have made sure that the Council's voice is taken more seriously by the Board and the business. Campaigns like 'Owned By You, Right By You', the reinvigoration of local events and member events, and violence against shop workers are all influenced by the Council's input. Plus, I have made Council a much more inclusive environment, where all members - no matter where they are on their co-operative journey - can contribute and feel that they have something to offer. I would continue to do this work and much more if I was elected back on to the Council.

My experience working as a Co-operative Councillor in London would add value. I have been a deputy leader and led on different cabinet portfolio areas including business, community and climate change. I have operated in the complex governance system of local government while championing Co-operative Values and Principles. This really important experience would help me to continue to bring value to the National Members' Council.



Prem Basumatary

Co-op Group businesses traded with in last 12 months

Food

1. What do you regard as the most important priority for Co-op in 2025?

In 2025, Co-op's top priority should be enhancing its digital transformation and customer experience. With so much going on in online shopping and delivery services, Co-op must invest in seamless, user-friendly digital platforms that make shopping easier and more accessible. This includes improving the Co-op App, optimising online delivery, and using data-driven insights to better serve members. I use Co-op delivery services all the time and they come from my local store where stock is not available so most of the time, the items don't get delivered even though the product is shown as available. This is not a good customer experience and one of my agenda priorities will be to address this. At the same time, Co-op should stay true to its values - supporting communities, sustainability, and ethical retail practices.

2. How do you demonstrate a commitment to Co-op Values and Principles?

I am committed to Co-operative Values and Principles, and I will demonstrate this by using my expertise in technology to create inclusive, accessible, and community-driven digital experiences. I believe in fairness, transparency, and member-ownership, ensuring technology serves people rather than just profits. I'll advocate for sustainability and ethical innovation, supporting Co-op's social responsibility goals. And by improving digital services, I believe we'll help strengthen Co-op's community connections, making it easier for members to engage, shop, and benefit from Co-op's mission.

3. How will you add value to the Members' Council and what skills and experience would you use to do this?

I will add value to the Members' Council by bringing technology-driven strategic thinking to enhance Co-op's digital services. With experience in leading engineering teams, improving user experience, and driving innovation, I can help shape Co-op's online platforms, making them more seamless, accessible, and efficient for members. My expertise in digital transformation, problem-solving, and customer-focused design will support Co-op's mission while ensuring technology strengthens community connections and enhances member engagement.



Anna Tee

Co-op Group businesses traded with in last 12 months

Food

1. What do you regard as the most important priority for Co-op in 2025?

It will continue to be a challenging environment with consumer confidence weak and significant cost pressures and so a priority is to trade effectively ('get the basics right') in order to keep

prices low for customers without compromise on quality and to support and reward colleagues fairly.

Alongside this and underpinning everything, is the priority to grow membership with the 'Owned By You, Right By You' ethos demonstrating how Co-op's values and principles make it a better way to do business. The launch in January 2025 of the fund for British farmers to support investment on sustainable farming methods is an example of this and shows that despite the near-term challenging conditions, the Co-op's strategy to reduce its environmental impact remains a priority for the long-term.

2. How do you demonstrate a commitment to Co-op Values and Principles?

I passionately believe that business done well can be a huge force for good. I'm a strong advocate of the positive impact that the Co-op's approach to business can have and want to support this.

I have previously worked for over 10 years at a well-known retail business who had a partnership model of employee-ownership, which had a number of similarities with the Co-op's values and principles. I have had direct experience of how democratic governance can work and the responsibilities that come with this.

Values including equality, fairness, honesty, caring for others and social responsibility underpin who I am and how I approach my personal and working life - I regularly volunteer and have experience of working with charities and social enterprises.

I'm also a very conscious consumer and the values and ethics of businesses have a direct impact on who and where I buy from. I think Co-op's member-ownership model is really powerful in this respect.

3. How will you add value to the Members' Council and what skills and experience would you use to do this?

I'm personable, hardworking and organised, keen to learn and share my skills and experiences and make a positive difference. I particularly like working as part of a team.

I have over 20 years of experience in senior financial and commercial roles at two large UK based retailers and so I understand how large retail businesses operate and

have a deep understanding of the highly competitive UK food retail industry and the importance of understanding and delivering for your customers. I love getting out and about in shops and operations to understand the business better and talk to customers and colleagues.

I'm a qualified chartered accountant and so I'm very comfortable in reviewing financial and management information in order to understand performance and hold directors to account through asking informed questions and constructive challenge.

I have served as a trustee director of a large pension scheme, which involved getting to grips with a highly technical subject area with significant governance requirements, as well as needing to balance competing factors to ensure we always acted in the best interests of pension scheme members.

I'm keen to learn, a good listener and will work collaboratively to represent members to the best of my ability and play my part in helping the Co-op do business right.



Caramel Quin

Co-op Group businesses traded with in last 12 months

Food

1. What do you regard as the most important priority for Co-op in 2025?

Staying true to Co-operative Values and Principles when the world is more challenging than any other time in living memory.

We need to maintain our uniqueness and fairness at a time of unprecedented financial and climate crisis.

At a local and global level, it's important that we stick by our principles while navigating financial pressures. And - without meaning to sound pompous - we can use this opportunity to show that another way is possible: people can work co-operatively and thrive.

We are part of a global movement and collectively we can make a difference.

2. How do you demonstrate a commitment to Co-op Values and Principles?

I've been a member for as long as I can remember and aim for co-operative businesses whenever I can, for shopping, banking and more. I'm also a member of the Co-operative Party politically: it's the party of the Co-operative Movement, committed to building a fairer society where power and wealth are shared.

I'm a long-term community campaigner who passionately advocates co-operative values in daily life. And as a local authority councillor, I work hard to support local residents and build equity. This can be challenging but it's fulfilling.

Co-operative values are in my heart. I'm committed to the Nolan Principles of Public Life: honesty, integrity, objectivity, accountability, selflessness, openness and leadership. I hold these values dearly in terms of how I conduct myself. The Co-operative Values and Principles go further in setting out how we believe in fairness, decency, equity and member-ownership.

3. How will you add value to the Members' Council and what skills and experience would you use to do this?

I've lived in Walthamstow, East London, for more than 25 years and led local residents' associations and community campaigns. Most notably, I had a central role in saving a highly listed art deco cinema. I'm proud to say it's being reopened this year as a world-class theatre.

I'm also a local authority councillor (Labour and Co-operative Parties) and sit on two scrutiny committees, one of which I vice-chair. I served on the Standard Life Investments Ethical Committee. We reviewed financial information and navigated complex ethical decisions to ensure funds met investors' wishes as well as their

financial needs. I'm also a director of Western Isles Association for Mental Health.

My Standard Life experience is most relevant because we listened to how members felt about a wide range of ethical issues, then turned them into practice. And that's what I feel I'd do as an effective member of the National Members' Council: listen to and incorporate members' voices.

It's our duty to understand members' wishes, as well as Co-operative Values and Principles, and incorporate them into everything that we do.

My work on scrutiny committees is relevant too, because the National Members' Council is a consultative body that scrutinises decisions.

I'm also a journalist: I write about gadgets and technology. So, I'm a good communicator and can bring those skills to the Members' Council. I'm a big fan of cutting through jargon and communicating clearly. I work well with others and would be an ambassador for co-operative values.

More at <https://linktr.ee/caramelquin>.



James Maloney

Co-op Group businesses traded with in last 12 months

Food

1. What do you regard as the most important priority for Co-op in 2025?

UPGRADE, UPGRADE, UPGRADE. Stores and distribution.

I have not been able to address all the many issues that I felt most strongly about when I first stood for election. Should you vote for me again? This time, my priorities will be the safety and security of the staff and customers in each and every one of the branches. As acknowledged by government, shoplifting and staff assaults are taking place regularly and are completely unacceptable. Part of my job should I be re-elected is to be available for you to contact me with your feedback on issues, which I will try to influence through the Members' Council.

As a member-owner, you also bear responsibility in part for the direction and the way the Co-op operates. I see my job, if I am elected, as helping to make the Co-op what you as members want it to become and be.

'Owned By You, Right By You' should be exactly how the Co-op operates.

maloneyjames050@gmail.com. I am always open for comments.

2. How do you demonstrate a commitment to Co-op Values and Principles?

By shopping in my local Co-op store nearly every day of the week for 25 years.

3. How will you add value to the Members' Council and what skills and experience would you use to do this?

By profession, I was a restaurateur and owned a neighbourhood restaurant in West London for 10 years. If you stop listening to your customers, your business is finished.

I am naturally distrusting of big business management and accept very little at face value. I bring a lively and inquiring mind.



Jon Nott

Co-op Group businesses traded with in last 12 months

Food

1. What do you regard as the most important priority for Co-op in 2025?

At a time when so much seems wrong in the world, it's more important than ever that we demonstrate the Co-op Difference and show people there is a better way to do business - one that

values people, communities and the planet.

Our Co-op's values have stood the test of time and resonate with people who are looking for positive change and hope for a fairer future.

2. How do you demonstrate a commitment to Co-op Values and Principles?

I'm a life-long co-operator and have worked in member-led campaigning organisations for 30 years.

Having worked for the co-operative youth movement, Woodcraft Folk, I know the value of listening to young people and ensuring their voices are heard at all levels in our Co-op.

I've also served as a Trustee of the Co-operative College and as one of the first Co-op Member Pioneers - linking members and colleagues with their local communities.

3. How will you add value to the Members' Council and what skills and experience would you use to do this?

I'm a campaigner at heart and will always stand up for our member-owners, our staff colleagues and the workers and co-operators in our supply chain.

I also bring experience of governance and finance. I've often been told that one of my skills is helping non-finance experts make sense of "the numbers".



Jane Davies

Co-op Group businesses traded with in last 12 months

Food and Insurance

1. What do you regard as the most important priority for Co-op in 2025?

With the UN designating 2025 the International Year of Co-ops and the UK Government's challenge to double the size of the Co-operative and Mutual Sector, it's an exciting time to get more involved in our largest member-owned retail business. A business which empowers staff and customers to take part in how it's run.

Despite amazing advertising campaigns recently, I think many people still don't understand the brilliant unique selling point of the Co-op. They think the membership card is just another loyalty card and don't realise the power it holds. We need to shout very loudly about the Co-op Difference.

At a time when democracy is threatened and global corporations wield huge and potentially dangerous control, we need to promote individual consumer and staff power. We need to be proud of the democratic, equality and equity-based way of doing business. We need to educate and inform communities and encourage them to join, be active and support the Co-op Group and other co-ops and mutuals. The sector is bringing an annual income of over £165 billion to the UK economy and the Co-op Group is a major part of that. I'm proud that the Co-op Group pays its fair share of tax and carries the Fair Tax Mark. We care about communities locally, nationally and globally. The co-op model helps bring national and global stability and the Co-op Group can be a leader in this. Co-operation needs to be in the news, to be taught at school and universities. As Co-op Group Members, we can play our part.

2. How do you demonstrate a commitment to Co-op Values and Principles?

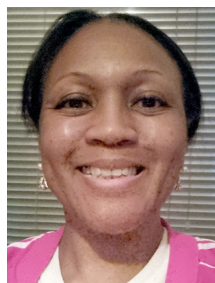
In the 80s, I was a parent representative at the co-op workplace nursery my eldest son attended. I was part of the pilot scheme for Co-op Group Member Pioneers representing the Sutton & Carshalton area. I forged links with local charities and community groups, worked with staff on stalls at local Co-ops for events like Fairtrade Fortnight. We organised activities e.g. a litter pick, a kid's charity lunch and donations to a local riding school for the disabled.

I'm a member of the Co-op Party and have served as a Co-Vice Chair of the London Co-op Party Council, I'm a member of the Croydon Merton & Sutton Credit Union, my energy account is with Midcounties Co-op (via Octopus). I'm a member of Sutton Community Fairtrade Group and we campaign to encourage people to choose Fairtrade for climate justice and sustainability. I'm a voting member of a local community farm. I'm a past Chair and current member of my GP's Patient Participation

Group. I believe in self-responsibility and self-help and the power of the individual engaging with others to improve society.

3. How will you add value to the Members' Council and what skills and experience would you use to do this?

I worked in the media for over 40 years as a casting director. I ran my own business and have experience overseeing budgets, negotiations for union contracts and working with different production teams on a varied slate of programmes. I'm now retired but active with various local community groups. I have two adult sons and I'm a carer for my husband who has MS.



Catherine Tuitt

Co-op Group businesses traded with in last 12 months

Food

1. What do you regard as the most important priority for Co-op in 2025?

To ensure the environmental footprint of the Co-op Group is sustainable, in our food stores and in sustainable funeral services.

Carbon reduction across the portfolio of the Co-op Group. Using solar and alternative energy to run our stores.

Grow the membership. The diversity of the membership. Inclusion of Co-op Colleagues in stores in the campaigns and activities.

2. How do you demonstrate a commitment to Co-op Values and Principles?

I have established co-operatives and supported co-operatives by being a member of co-operatives. I have been an advocate of co-operatives and for social responsibility. I have spent a considerable number of years involved in self-help, equity, democracy and solidarity.

My background involves participating in decision making processes and members' needs. Engaged in initiatives for the wellbeing of members of co-operatives. I sought to foster collaboration and co-operation and to ensure diversity, inclusivity and equality in co-operatives. I drafted and moved motions to national conferences on equalities that were passed by national Co-operative Party delegates unanimously.

3. How will you add value to the Members' Council and what skills and experience would you use to do this?

I add value by being aware of my limitations and being willing to learn and develop. My experiences and skills gained from my contribution to set up co-operatives and I raise funds by community share offers in my work with community land trusts. Business knowledge gained from my professional background as a CEO of a large charitable organisation, where I managed staff and the budget.



Neal Honney

Co-op Group businesses traded with in last 12 months

Food

1. What do you regard as the most important priority for Co-op in 2025?

Connecting with your customers and customer experience is what should be guiding the Co-op throughout 2025. The USP of the Co-op is its members. So that's what the driver should be behind the plans for the year ahead. With growth in your members from 4.2M in 2022 to 6.2M in 2025, that's the success story that needs to be celebrated and acted upon further. Like any business, your strength is in your people. With the opportunity to reach out and get support from this massive pre-existing (and future growth) community, you have a richness of talents just waiting to be involved and consulted, as you pave a successful future together.

2. How do you demonstrate a commitment to Co-op Values and Principles?

In my line of work, working with clients, I have only ever succeeded through my openness, honesty and self-responsibility. Which align with three of the Co-op's values. I strongly believe that a position of trust is the cornerstone of any business (and personal) relationship, and through demonstrating integrity and a caring mindset for others, that this is the way that you make a real difference. I've created and managed many teams throughout my career, and to see junior staff that I hired many years ago now becoming leaders in their own right is one of my greatest achievements. I am immensely proud of their achievements, and how through my values in guiding their careers, that it's assisted them in reaching their goals.

3. How will you add value to the Members' Council and what skills and experience would you use to do this?

I can only say that I will add value by being my authentic self for the Co-op, and simply being me. We're all unique in our different ways, based upon our life experiences, environments, and people we surround ourselves with. I'm a people person, and enjoy interacting with and learning from others. Although I don't promise to have all of the answers, through active listening, and a willingness to learn, I will guarantee that I will do my utmost to make a difference to the Co-op and its members.



THANKS FOR MAKING YOUR VOICE COUNT

Co-operative Group Limited, registered number 525R, registered in England/Wales,
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www.co-operative.coop