

Motion from Members' Council - Sustainable Production and Consumption

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The need to take urgent action to avoid the devastating impact of climate change remains a top priority for Co-op Members. What we do now will be judged by future generations and we must all make changes to build a sustainable future and fulfil our Co-op's pioneering ambition of *Co-operating for a Fairer World*.

Food consumption and production are one of the biggest drivers of climate change contributing around 25% to global Green House Gas emissions, and the leading cause of the decline of nature. As a substantial consumer co-operative with extensive global supply chains, our Co-op and Co-op Members must lead the way in making change.

This AGM welcomes the many climate change actions our Co-op has taken to date including our Future of Food 2030 strategy, the introduction of rigorous science-based targets to reduce direct and indirect Green House Gas emissions and the launch of our fantastic 'Gro' plant-based product range.

This AGM calls on our Co-op to:

- Educate, encourage and enable members and customers to choose healthy and affordable, sustainable diets and make collective co-operative impact through their individual consumption, in line with the UN Sustainable Development goal for Responsible Consumption and Production.
 - Minimise the carbon impact of Co-op products by reducing meat, dairy and other carbon intensive ingredients and set out a clear strategy and targets to achieve this.
 - Recognising that different production methods for meat, dairy and other foods have different climate and environmental footprints, support our suppliers to employ more sustainable methods of production.
 - Provide clearer information to members and customers on the carbon impact of products to help them make informed choices by investing in trialling a climate-footprint label for Co-op products, developing digital ways of supporting consumer behaviour changes and providing rewards and offers for sustainable choices through our membership proposition and app.
 - Explore visible solutions that demonstrate our commitments, such as: green distribution and delivery methods, electric vehicle charging points and bicycle racks in store car parks, and trialling zero waste packaging solutions and direct refillable self-dispensing methods that support a more circular economy.
- Promote sustainable energy consumption through Co-op Power to our partners, community causes and other businesses and co-operative organisations.
 - And, become a leading voice on tackling climate change by campaigning and engaging government, leaders, the wider co-operative movement, other organisations and members to act collectively and co-operatively to make the systemic changes needed to build a sustainable future.

More information on our motion:

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Taking action for a fairer planet is core to our Co-op's vision of co-operating for a fairer world, and we've long recognised the scale of the climate crisis that we're facing. Central to our plans to tackle the climate crisis is the recognition that we will not achieve our targets without co-operating with others: our suppliers, our members and customers.

We will be open and transparent about the challenges we face. We will strive to share what we're learning, and to develop solutions to share constructively with the UK Government in order to lead the way in tackling the climate crisis through 2021 and beyond.

We have a serious commitment to be a Net Zero business by 2040. We recognise that to realise that ambition requires all aspects of society within the UK and beyond to co-operate with a common aim. In pursuit of this we have set ourselves our first five year science based carbon reduction plans for both our operations (50% by 2025) and more significantly for our products (11% by 2025).

For our products we have identified key areas where we can drive down our carbon impacts. This includes reducing the carbon impacts from the meat and dairy products we sell by working with our farming groups to improve their efficiencies. We are also looking at our new product development to identify options to reduce the carbon impacts of our products including the impacts from meat, dairy and soy. Co-op Power will be engaging suppliers, and partners, to move to renewable energy sources. We are converting our home delivery services to electric vehicles and looking to increase options for charging points. We are committed to get to zero food waste from our stores and are investigating options to support refillable options for consumers (whilst recognising the physical limitations in the convenience store format). Society can't get to Net Zero without informed and mobilised consumers. We are investigating options to provide customers and members with helpful information about the carbon impacts from their choices.