



# MAKE YOUR VOICE COUNT

Co-op Annual General Meeting  
and Director Elections 2026

X0605\_1\_P6



OWNED BY YOU.  
RIGHT BY YOU.



co  
op

OWNED BY YOU.  
RIGHT BY YOU.

# From our Chair

Dear member owner,

As your Chair, I'm delighted to invite you to be part of our 2026 AGM, taking place on **Saturday, 16 May**.

As you know, what makes our Co-op different is that as a member, you own our business and you play a really significant part in shaping how we do things and what we do next. Our AGM is a very important opportunity for you to have your say.

During the AGM, members will take part in our Q&A and Members' Discussion, as well as consider and vote upon this year's motions submitted by our Board and National Members' Council. Together, we'll also review our 2025 performance and share what's coming up in the year ahead.

You can vote on the motions in advance of the AGM (***please remember to cast your vote by Midday on Monday, 11 May***), or on the day at Co-op Live. The results will be announced on the day and published on our website shortly after the meeting.

We continue to look for opportunities to involve as many of our member owners in our AGM as possible. We've therefore doubled the number of local events taking place this year - please do check if there is one taking place near you. You also have the option to join us online, if you'd prefer. And, of course, we'd be delighted to see you in person at Co-op Live, Manchester.

If you're joining us at Co-op Live, please don't miss the opportunity to visit our new pop-up event taking place at Canalside Café. There will be refreshments available, and plenty more chances to shape the issues you care about most.

Further details on our AGM, including this year's motions, are enclosed. For the latest information and updates, please visit our AGM website at **[co-operative.coop/agm](https://co-operative.coop/agm)**.

I look forward to welcoming you at our AGM.

**Debbie White**  
Co-op Chair



# Contents

- 5-6 Things you need to know
- 7 What you can vote on
- 10-13 Notice of 2026 Annual General Meeting
- 14-18 More information on our motions
- 20-21 Electing your Directors
- 22-23 How to get to our AGM

# Things you need to know

Our AGM is being held on Saturday 16 May 2026, starting at 10.00am.

Join Us: Vertu Place, Co-op Live, Gibbon St & Alan Turing Way, Manchester, M11 3DU, Entrance E - Level 1 Canalside. Details on how to get to Co-op Live are at the back of this booklet.

## Go Online

On the day of the meeting, you'll be able to join in online from 10am, receive key information, business updates and hear our plans for the future. You'll also be able to ask questions and get involved with our online Members' Discussion. If you're joining us online you can register your attendance at [co-operative.coop/agm](https://co-operative.coop/agm).

Please keep an eye on our website [co-operative.coop/agm](https://co-operative.coop/agm) for up-to-date information on what you can get involved in.

## Go Local

This year, your Member Activators and Council Members are holding twelve local events around the UK at the same time as the AGM. Make your voice count on the issues you care about, ask questions and take part in our Members' Discussion with member owners in your community. More details on these events and how to register your attendance can be found on our website [co-operative.coop/agm](https://co-operative.coop/agm).

## Voting

If you are joining us online or at one of our local events you **cannot** vote on the day and will need to submit your vote ahead of the meeting.

**Voting closes at 12 noon on Monday 11 May.**

## Plan for the Day:

### 8.30am

#### Canalside Café (Co-op Live)

Join us for networking, refreshments and a chance to make your voice count in the latest activities from around Co-op. This will be a great space to network with other members and speak to our Directors and leaders before the meeting begins. There will be member exclusive goodies up for grabs.

### 9.30am

#### AGM Registration Opens

Entrance E, Co-op Live.

We are asking all members who are joining us in person on the day at Co-op Live to pre-register. You can do this by telling us via your AGM email invitation or completing and returning the form in your pack.

### 10.00am

#### AGM

Hear a review of the year from our Chair, CEO, CFO and Council President. This is your chance to ask the Board questions and have your say by voting on our motions.

### 11.45am

#### Members' Discussion

Have your chance to guide our Co-op on tackling things you care about. More information on our Members' Discussions can be found on our website: [co-operative.coop/agm](https://co-operative.coop/agm).

### 12.45pm (approx.)

#### Meeting closes

## Vote Online by 12 noon on 11 May 2026

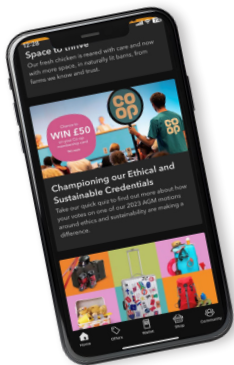
By voting, you get the chance to have your say on our **motions** and the **election of our Directors**.

*Please note that there are no Member Nominated Director or National Members' Council elections this year.*

All you need are the two voting codes provided in your email or postal pack.

You can vote online at [coop.co.uk/vote](https://coop.co.uk/vote) or by scanning the **QR code** on the front of the accompanying letter.

You can also vote via the Co-op app.



The results of the AGM voting will be published on our website: [co-operative.coop/agm](https://co-operative.coop/agm) as soon as we can after the AGM.

If you are participating in our AGM online or at one of our local events, please note that you will **not** be able to vote on any motions on the day of the AGM. Therefore, if you do not plan to attend in person in Manchester or, are uncertain about your attendance, please submit your vote before the meeting.

## Have a Question?

We will try and get through as many questions as possible on the day. You can ask a question at our AGM by:

- Joining online on the day
- Attending the meeting in person
- Attending one of our twelve local events
- Emailing the AGM team at [agm@coop.co.uk](mailto:agm@coop.co.uk) by **11 May 2026**.

### Don't Forget

If you are coming to our AGM at Co-op Live, you'll need your Co-op Membership card (physical or app) and another form of ID like a credit card or your driving license.



### Voting on the day

If you intend to vote at Co-op Live on the day, please bring your smartphone or smart device with you. Don't worry if you don't have one, we will be able to provide you with a voting device.

### Filming

The event will be broadcast live and will be available on our website [co-operative.coop/agm](https://co-operative.coop/agm) the week following the meeting. By attending the event you consent to being filmed and/or photographed for this purpose.

### Contact us

For any queries you may have on the AGM, you can contact the AGM team by email at: [agm@coop.co.uk](mailto:agm@coop.co.uk).

For membership or any other general queries, contact our customer care line on 0800 0686 727.

You can also write to us at: Co-op Secretary, Co-operative Group, 1 Angel Square, Manchester, M60 0AG.



## Here's what you can vote on

As a member, you own our Co-op. This means you have a say on how we are run and who you want to represent you on our Board.

Voting is easy and it takes just a few minutes to make your voice heard. Once you've finished voting, please take a few more minutes to complete our annual **Big Co-op Survey** and help us make a big difference to your everyday. Tell us what's important to you at [coop.co.uk/TheBigCoopSurvey](https://coop.co.uk/TheBigCoopSurvey). You will need to log in to your membership account first.

### Vote on our AGM motions

Motions give you the opportunity to vote on important issues for our Co-op. This year there are proposals from our Board and National Members' Council. They include decisions such as whether to approve our annual accounts or telling us what you'd like Co-op to take action on next. With your steer, we know that we're tackling what you care about and can better understand what matters to you most.

*Please note that there are no Member Nominated Director or National Members' Council elections this year.*

Read our 2026 motions and the Board responses in the 'More Information on our motions' section of this booklet.

## Nominate the Chair of the Meeting to cast your vote on AGM motions

You can nominate someone to vote on motions for you. This person is called a Voting Representative and can be any eligible member, although it is usually the Chair of the Meeting.

We strongly recommend you appoint the Chair of the Meeting to cast your vote. You can do this at [coop.co.uk/vote](https://coop.co.uk/vote) or by completing and returning the form in your pack.

Vote online,  
by post or  
via the Co-op App by  
12 noon on  
Monday 11 May 2026



# TOGETHER, WE'VE MADE A DIFFERENCE

## CHOOSING CO-OPS



### YOU ASKED...

For help with understanding co-ops so you can choose, start or grow them.

### WE...

Launched our Ownership Hub with updates on what our Co-op does. Helping members see the difference we make together, get involved, and choose Co-op and other co-operative businesses.

## TACKLING DIVISION



### YOU ASKED...

For us to empower you to come together where you live and find solutions to the problems you face.

### WE...

Are creating a platform that connects you to your local Co-op, representatives, and other members wanting to make a difference in your local community.

## AFFORDABLE & HEALTHY LIVING



### YOU ASKED...

For more ways to assemble healthier, sustainable home-cooked meals.

### WE...

Created our 'YES' icon, now on over 200 own-brand products, helping you to make healthy choices as you shop.

# AGM<sup>20</sup><sub>26</sub>

**Date:** 16 May at 10:00am

Celebrate all that we've achieved and get involved in the year ahead. Join us at Co-op Live, online from home, or at one of our 12 local events.

Ways to join: [co-operative.coop/agm](https://co-operative.coop/agm)



# Notice of Annual General Meeting

Saturday 16 May 2026 at 10.00am

Vertu Place, Co-op Live, Gibbon Street & Alan Turing Way, Manchester, M11 3DU

Below are the motions we are asking you to vote on. The Board are recommending you vote **for** Motions 1 to 11. The Council are recommending you vote **for** Motions 4 to 11\*.

All of the motions being put to members are Ordinary Motions and require a

simple majority to be passed. A simple majority is more than 50% of the total votes cast.

We have included supporting notes at the end of this Notice to help you decide how to vote.

## Motions 1-3

### Our performance

These are Ordinary Resolutions and are advisory.

#### 1

To receive the Annual Report and Accounts for the period ended 3 January 2026.

#### 2

To approve the Directors' Remuneration Report for the period ended 3 January 2026.

Our Remuneration Report can be found in our Annual Report and Accounts which is on our website:

[co-operative.coop/investors/reports](https://co-operative.coop/investors/reports)

#### What is a Remuneration Report?

It's a report that tells you what our Directors and Executives are paid.

#### 3

To receive our Social Value and Sustainability Report for the period ended 3 January 2026.

Our Social Value and Sustainability Report can be found on our website: [co-operative.coop/investors/reports](https://co-operative.coop/investors/reports).

#### What is our Social Value and Sustainability Report?

It tells the story of our progress towards achieving our Vision, supporting communities, embedding our ethics and values, and addressing the challenges faced by our planet.

\*As a result of publication timings for our Co-op's Annual Report and Accounts (including the Directors' Remuneration Report) and our Social Value and Sustainability Report this year, there is no recommendation from the Council for Motions 1-3.

## Motions 4-6

### Electing our Directors

These are Ordinary Resolutions and are binding.

#### 4

##### Executive Directors

To elect Kate Allum as an Executive Director.

##### Who are Executive Directors?

They're full time Directors who make decisions on the day-to-day running of the business.

#### 5

##### Independent Non-Executive Directors (INEDs)

To elect Ronny Gottschlich as an Independent Non-Executive Director.

#### 6

To re-elect Moni Mannings as an Independent Non-Executive Director.

##### Who are INEDs?

They're Directors who are independent of the Executive Management team, appointed by the Board and elected by our members. They're not involved in the day-to-day running of the business, but they have a key role in ensuring our Co-op is well run.

## Motions 7-8

### Statutory Motions

These are Ordinary Resolutions and are binding.

#### 7

##### Re-appointment of Auditors

To re-appoint Ernst & Young LLP as our auditors and authorise the Risk and Audit Committee to fix their remuneration.

#### 8

##### Joint Board and Council Motion - Political Donations

To seek approval to incur political expenditure, including donations and/or subscriptions to political parties, not exceeding £750,000 in total for the year commencing 1 January 2027.

## Motions 9-11

These are Ordinary Resolutions and are motions put forward directly by our National Members' Council. They are advisory.

#### 9

##### Motion from Council - A Member 'Essentials' Basket

Our Co-op was founded over 180 years ago to provide access to food our members and communities could trust and rely on.

With over 2,400 stores in every postcode, we serve different communities across the UK, all of whom have different needs from their local Co-op and who rely on us to be there when they need something.

The cost of living continues to be the biggest priority for our members. We want all of our members to know that no matter which store they shop at, they can have guaranteed access to good quality, trusted products close to home, at the right price.

### **We ask the Board to:**

- Introduce the 'Member Essentials Basket' with great prices on the most bought basics by our member owners such as milk, bread, potatoes and eggs and to make sure these are always available, no matter which Co-op store they shop at.

## **10**

### **Motion from Council - Showcasing the best of British Food and Drink in our stores**

Our members value our commitment to making sustainable and ethical choices accessible and supporting British farmers, not only because it's the right thing to do but because they value the quality and taste of homegrown products.

Our Co-op is proudly based in communities right across the United Kingdom. Our members have told us how much they value their local store and that they want to have a say about what they can buy - especially products that are sourced from and better reflect the places they live. We want our Co-op to do more with local suppliers and to involve members in choosing products from Scotland, Wales, England and Northern Ireland, which showcases the fantastic diversity of the amazing food and drink products made across the UK.

We also think that at a time when food security is a concern, it is even more important that we back our British farmers, growers and producers. We

want our Co-op to continue to work with our farmers and suppliers to support them, and to do more to show our members that simply by choosing to shop at Co-op they are supporting British farmers.

### **We ask the Board to:**

- Provide more opportunities for member owners to influence the products they can buy in store, including a 'Best of British' showcase of Scottish, Welsh, English and Northern Irish products, chosen by member owners.
- Do more to source from local suppliers and share more information about the positive impact that choosing British products has for our farmers and suppliers.

## **11**

### **Motion from Council - Providing More Value to Member Owners at Big Life Moments**

Our Co-op's Life Services teams are trusted by hundreds of thousands of members and customers at key life moments, from buying a house to choosing insurance to losing a loved one.

Many of our members have told us that they want to know more about how to plan for key life moments but don't know where to start. We want our Co-op to do more to support member owners to find out more by sharing information and providing opportunities for members to join in with their Co-op online and local to where they are.

We have member prices on individual Life Services products, but we want members who choose a number of different products to be rewarded even more. We also want our most loyal members who trade with both our food

stores and Life Services businesses to be rewarded even more through additional benefits such as adding credit to membership cards.

**We ask the Board to:**

- Provide additional rewards and benefits for members who buy more than one Life Services product from their Co-op and who trade most with their Co-op's Food and Life Services Businesses.
- Support member owners with the information and advice they need to plan for key life moments through information and local and online join in opportunities.



Dominic Kendal-Ward

**Group Secretary, 8 April 2026**

# More Information

## on our motions

Motions give our member owners the opportunity to vote on important issues for our Co-op. Some motions are formal standard business – our annual report, electing our directors, appointing auditors and political donations. These motions are agreed if the majority of our member owners vote in favour. Other motions relate to some of the big issues our members care about and want to ask our Board to consider taking action on. These motions are proposed to members either by our National Members' Council, by 100 members themselves or by our Board. Find out more about those you are being asked to vote on below.

### **Motion 3 - Our Social Value and Sustainability Report**

For 20 years, we have led the way in open and honest sustainable reporting.

Our Social Value and Sustainability Report provides an open and honest report on our sustainability, ethics and community performance and impact to help you understand how we're doing on the issues that matter to you, our member owners.

### **Motion 4 - To elect Kate Allum as an Executive Director**

Following Kate's appointment as Interim CEO on 30 March 2026, Kate is required to stand for election as an Executive Director. A copy of Kate's biography can be found in the following section.

Members are asked to note that, in order to take on the role of Interim CEO, Kate's role as a Member Nominated Director (MND) was temporarily paused. No MND vacancy has been created as a result,

and Kate will resume her MND role and duties on appointment of a successor CEO until the end of her MND term in May 2027. Should Kate decide to stand for a final term as MND, she must then stand for re-election in May 2027.

### **Motion 5 - To elect Ronny Gottschlich as an Independent Non-Executive Director**

A copy of Ronny's biography can be found in the following section. If Ronny is successfully elected, he will be next due to stand for re-election at the 2029 AGM.

### **Motion 6 - To re-elect Moni Mannings as an Independent Non-Executive Director**

A copy of Moni's biography can be found in the following section. Moni is standing for re-election a year earlier than planned, to ensure that we don't have too many directors' terms ending in the same year. If Moni is successfully re-elected, she will be next due to stand for re-election at the 2029 AGM.

### **Motion 8 - Joint Board and Council Motion - Political Donations**

We follow best practice and any decisions on the principles of political donations is put to a vote at the AGM. We are a founding member and funder of the Co-operative Party and have member representation on the Party's National Executive Committee. The Co-operative Party was created in 1917 to defend and further the cause of co-operation in the UK, ensuring that co-operators are elected and the Co-operative Movement's voice is heard in Parliament and at all levels of government.

As a subscribing member of the

Co-operative Party, last year we agreed funding of £598,600 for 2026. If this motion is not passed, we will give notice to the Co-operative Party that we will withdraw as a subscribing member; however, we will honour our existing commitment to give them a minimum of 12 months' notice to terminate our membership and will provide funding until the end of 2027 to allow them time to think about the Party's future. If this motion is passed, we will continue to be a subscribing member paying £598,600 for 2026 and £598,600 for 2027 and will also be able to make additional small donations to other political parties, campaigns and organisations which support Co-operative Values and Principles, with total expenditure not exceeding £750,000.

### **Motion 9 – Council motion – A Member 'Essentials' Basket**

Our Co-op was founded over 180 years ago to provide access to food our members and communities could trust and rely on.

With over 2,400 stores in every postcode, we serve different communities across the UK, all of whom have different needs from their local Co-op and who rely on us to be there when they need something.

The cost of living continues to be the biggest priority for our members. We want all of our members to know that no matter which store they shop at, they can have guaranteed access to good quality, trusted products close to home, at the right price.

***We ask the Board to introduce the 'Member Essentials Basket' with great prices on the most bought basics by our member owners such as milk, bread, potatoes and eggs and to make sure these are always available, no matter which Co-op store they shop at.***

### **Board response:**

We know that the cost-of-living crisis is the biggest priority for our members and that being able to rely on Co-op to have great value everyday essentials is important. Because of what our members told us, we launched Member Prices in 2024 on the everyday items our members buy most, like milk, bread and eggs, and have kept expanding the products – both Co-op and branded – over the past two years.

One of our Co-op's priorities is to ensure our members never pay more for essentials in our Co-op than anywhere else and that is why we invested significantly in our Aldi Price Match. We want our members to know that convenience shouldn't mean compromise on either quality, or price, when it comes to everyday essentials. This year, we are continuing to fight to keep prices low so members can trust the value that they get and know that the food they buy has strong ethical sourcing standards. We have worked hard to maintain strong levels of availability of everyday essentials over the past two years, with a particular focus on ensuring the products members buy most, including Aldi Price Match, have the highest levels of availability.

The cost-of-living crisis continues to be a real challenge for our members, and we know that members want us to keep building trusted value for members and customers whenever, wherever and however they shop with us. We also know that despite our Aldi Price Match, some members still do not know that they can get great value essentials from Co-op whenever they need them. It is important that we listen to our members to continue to understand which products they feel are essential when they shop with us. The Board therefore welcomes the opportunity to

work with our members to develop a 'Member Essentials Basket' to ensure the right products are available at the right moment, at the right price.

The Board recommends supporting this motion.

### **Motion 10 - Council motion - Showcasing the best of British Food and Drink in our stores**

Our members value our commitment to making sustainable and ethical choices accessible and supporting British farmers, not only because it's the right thing to do but because they value the quality and taste of homegrown products.

Our Co-op is proudly based in communities right across the United Kingdom. Our members have told us how much they value their local store and that they want to have a say about what they can buy - especially products that are sourced from and better reflect the places they live. We want our Co-op to do more with local suppliers and to involve members in choosing products from Scotland, Wales, England and Northern Ireland, which showcases the fantastic diversity of the amazing food and drink products made across the UK.

We also think that at a time when food security is a concern, it is even more important that we back our British farmers, growers and producers. We want our Co-op to continue to work with our farmers and suppliers to support them, and to do more to show our members that simply by choosing to shop at Co-op they are supporting British farmers.

#### **We ask the Board to:**

- ***Provide more opportunities for member owners to influence the products they can buy in store, including a 'Best of British' showcase of Scottish, Welsh, English***

***and Northern Irish products, chosen by Member Owners.***

- ***Do more to source from local suppliers and share more information about the positive impact that choosing British products has for our farmers and suppliers.***

#### **Board response:**

Co-op Members consistently say that the quality of our food and our commitment to ethical sourcing is a big reason why they choose Co-op. We're proud of the strength of our commitments to supporting our British farmers all year round.

That's why in our stores, you'll find that all our Co-op brand fresh and frozen meat is British, including when it's used as an ingredient in products like sandwiches, pies and ready meals. You'll find that all our Co-op brand fresh milk, fresh cream and cheddar cheese is 100% British. You'll also see the work we've done over many years to maximise the length of the British season for our fresh produce, too.

The resilience of our food system is under strain like never before - and supporting the farmers in our supply chain, around the world and in the UK - is critical. Whilst the depth and breadth of our British sourcing commitments are vital, what sets our Co-op apart is the fact we have stood by them through thick and thin for over a decade, and that we are unwavering in our commitment to continue to stand by them.

The impact of climate change and increasingly volatile weather is the gravest risk facing farmers today. At the same time, they are uniquely positioned to work with us to address the climate and nature crises that we are facing. That's why we've invested heavily in our farming sustainability programmes. In 2025, we announced a new fund to help

farmers adopt sustainable practices. By the end of the year, we provided £760,000 of funding to farmers in our supply chain, to support them in reducing emissions and promoting nature on their farms.

Too often, far too little thought is given to where our food comes from, or the hard work that happens on farms right across the UK and around the world every single day. We've long recognised the responsibility we have to stand by our farmers, but also to show our members and customers how they, just by choosing Co-op, support British farming. Our British and provenance sourcing commitments feature prominently on packaging on the relevant products, for instance, so that it's clear for customers when they are buying British products.

Our members have told us that they want to buy great quality British products from their Co-op and throughout the summer, we'll be showcasing the best of British in our stores. We'll also be sharing more information with our members about the important issues of food security and how we support farmers and producers, with opportunities to find out more on our new Ownership Hub, which was established following a motion voted for by members last year.

As a member owned business, hundreds of thousands of member owners join in and shape our Co-op every year, including designing the fantastic products and services we provide, from chocolate bars to Life Services products. We welcome the opportunity for members to get involved and have their say on the best of British products that they can buy at their Co-op and we'll look to work with members on this over the next twelve months.

The Board recommends supporting this motion.

## Motion 11 – Council motion – Providing More Value to Member Owners at Big Life Moments

Our Co-op's Life Services teams are trusted by hundreds of thousands of members and customers at key life moments, from buying a house to choosing insurance to losing a loved one.

Many of our members have told us that they want to know more about how to plan for key life moments but don't know where to start. We want our Co-op to do more to support member owners to find out more by sharing information and providing opportunities for members to join in with their Co-op online and local to where they are.

We have member prices on individual Life Services products, but we want members who choose a number of different products to be rewarded even more. We also want our most loyal members who trade with both our food stores and life services businesses to be rewarded even more through additional benefits such as adding credit to membership cards.

### **We ask the Board to:**

- ***Provide additional rewards and benefits for members who buy more than one Life Services product from their Co-op and who trade most with their Co-op's Food and Life Services businesses.***
- ***Support member owners with the information and advice they need to plan for key life moments through information and local and online join in opportunities.***

### **Board response:**

We recognise that our Life Services business - Funeralcare, Insurance and Legal Services - plays a vital role for our member owners' protection, planning and hour of need moments; whether arranging a funeral, insuring a home or

writing a will. We also know these key life moments can feel daunting and that we are in a unique position to work together to provide value for our member owners, whether through additional rewards and benefits or trusted support and guidance.

Through our autumn events, we spoke to members who clearly expressed a desire for more accessible, practical information to help them plan ahead. We have already begun responding to this need. In early 2026, we hosted our first member engagement "Ask the Expert" event, giving members the opportunity to learn directly from specialists in our Life Services businesses to help them to understand what works for them. We plan to build on it with more opportunities throughout the year.

While our Member Prices and the existing benefits across individual Life Services products are valued, we recognise the ambition to do more for those who choose multiple Life Service products and to reward loyalty.

Encouraging members to engage with more of their Co-op not only strengthens their relationship with us but ensures they receive more of the value, reassurance and support that the Life Services businesses can provide and ultimately help our Co-op to grow and provide even more value to our members and their communities.

We are exploring how we can keep evolving our membership proposition so that loyalty across more than one product can be recognised in a fair and financially sustainable way, ensuring we understand how best to reward members while ensuring we maintain affordability and long-term sustainability across all Life Services businesses. We know members need easier access to our expertise to help them plan for important

life stages, and we are committed to expanding the opportunities for members.

The Board agrees with the aims of this motion and welcomes the focus on increasing value for member owners for the life moments that matter, while recognising the need for thoughtful design and sustainable implementation.

The Board recommends supporting this motion.

## The technical bit

Voting on each of the motions is by poll.

A poll means that:

- Each Individual Member has one vote on each motion, whether they vote in person or appoint a Voting Representative.
- Each Independent Society Member (ISM) has weighted votes on each motion. The weighting is decided under Part 2 of our Purchases Regulations which are available at **[co-operative.coop/agm](https://www.co-operative.coop/agm)**.

Your Voting Representative can be the Chair of the Meeting or an Individual Member or Council Member, who will attend the Meeting in person. You must instruct them how to vote on each motion.

You will be able to appoint your Voting Representative to cast your vote at **[coop.co.uk/vote](https://www.coop.co.uk/vote)** or by completing and returning the form in your pack.

**CO  
OP**

OWNED BY YOU.  
RIGHT BY YOU.

**DOING RIGHT  
BY MEMBERS**

**CREATE  
POSITIVE  
CHANGE**



# Electing your Directors

Our Rules set out which Directors need to stand for election or re-election each year. This year we're asking you to elect Kate Allum as an Executive Director.

We're also asking you to elect Ronny Gottschlich and re-elect Moni Mannings as your Independent Non-Executive Directors.

All Directors have met the eligibility criteria under our Rules.



## Kate Allum

### **Executive Director**

Interim Chief Executive Officer  
(appointed 30 March 2026)

Member Nominated Director  
(15 May 2021 - 29 March 2026)

### **Skills and experience**

Kate has extensive experience at board level, holding a variety of senior executive and non-executive leadership roles in the commercial sector, across a wide variety of companies, cultures and countries.

Kate's previous executive experience includes serving as Chief Executive of Cedo Limited and First Milk Limited, the largest UK-owned dairy co-operative. She has also held a number of non-executive directorships and is currently on the Board of Business Stream, Chair of Ballater Community Trust and Chair of The Scottish SPCA.



## Ronny Gottschlich

**Independent Non-Executive Director**  
(appointed 29 January 2026)

### Skills and experience

Ronny Gottschlich is a seasoned international retail executive and former CEO of Lidl UK (2010-2016), where he led a major market repositioning that doubled market share and revenue.

With over 16 years at the Schwarz Group, he has held senior leadership roles across multiple European markets before founding Heunadel Retail Advisory in 2017. Today, he advises leading retailers globally from Europe to the Middle East, Asia, and Latin America and serves on several supervisory boards, bringing a sharp focus on operational excellence, growth, and pragmatic disruption.



## Moni Mannings

**Independent Non-Executive Director**  
Senior Independent Director  
(appointed 2 January 2024)

### Committee membership

- Remuneration Committee (Chair from March 2026)
- Nominations Committee

### Skills and experience

Moni is a qualified Solicitor who, until March 2016, held the position of senior partner at Olswang LLP, an international law firm. With over thirty years of experience in legal practice as a Banking and Finance lawyer, Moni established and led Olswang's International Banking and Finance Division and served on the firm's Board for 13 years.

Moni is the Independent Chair of the Honours Diversity and Outreach Committee, Senior Independent Director at Land Securities Group plc, and a Member of The Takeover Panel.

Moni has held Non-Executive Director roles at several major companies including Easyjet Plc, Hargreaves Lansdown plc, Investec Bank plc, Polypipe Group plc, Dairy Crest Group plc, Breedon Group plc, and Cazoo Group Ltd, and served as Deputy Chair of Barnardo's.

Moni founded EPoC, a network promoting people of colour on boards, and sits on both the Parker Review Committee and the board of St Marks Hospital Foundation charity.

## How to get to our AGM

The meeting is being held at:  
Vertu Place  
Co-op Live  
Gibbon Street & Alan Turing Way  
Manchester M11 3DU  
Entrance E - Level 1 Canalside

As a Co-op, we are supportive of Manchester City Council's goal of becoming net zero carbon. We therefore ask members to avoid travelling by car if possible.

You can plan your journey by going on to the Co-op Live website: [cooplive.com](https://cooplive.com)

### By Foot

Co-op Live is a 25-minute walk from the heart of Manchester City Centre.

From Piccadilly Train Station, a step-free walking route is clearly signposted through Manchester's Ancoats and New Islington areas.

You can also visit the Bee Active Website to take a look at the area around the Arena. Just type the postcode 'M11 3DU' and follow signs for Entrance E - Level 1 Canalside.

### By Metrolink

The venue is served by trams on the Ashton-Eccles line, with the Etihad Campus stop directly next to the venue. Trams go from Piccadilly Train Station and Piccadilly Gardens. If you are arriving via Victoria Train Station, you will need to catch the Metrolink to Piccadilly and change there.

### By Car

If you are travelling on the road, Co-op Live is located on the Etihad Campus - follow the postcode as a reference. Note that there will not be designated parking for Co-op Members and there is a strictly enforced resident parking scheme in place on the streets around the Etihad Campus, which is made clear through on-street signage. There are 24 Park and Ride stations around Manchester, where you can park for free and jump on the Metrolink to the Arena.

### By Bus

If you are planning on arriving by bus, the main bus services go from Piccadilly Gardens. Please check the numbers and times on the Co-op Live website.



### Venue Access

The venue is equipped to welcome members with any access needs. Please contact the AGM Team in advance of you attending if you have any particular requirements or, speak to a member of the AGM Team on the day.

### Venue Restrictions

When attending our AGM at Co-op Live, it's important to be aware of the safety and restricted items policy to ensure a smooth and safe experience for all members. For security reasons, the venue operates a one bag per person policy. Attendees can bring one small handbag provided it's not larger than A4 in size. Large bags are not permitted within the venue.

### Bag Drop

A bag drop will be available at Canalside Cafe.

### Security and bag searches

As part of the venue's security measures, bag searches will be carried out on entry.

Please note that anybody who is found to be disrupting the meeting may be removed from the venue by security.

### Prohibited items

Any dangerous or prohibited items that are not allowed in the venue will be removed.

Restricted items include:

- Food, glass, bottles, cans, plastic bottle tops, alcohol, large umbrellas, lighters, e-cigarettes or other types of vapes, professional cameras, recording equipment, and items that could disrupt the event or cause harm to others.
- Laptops, iPads or Go Pro's (or any similar device) are also not permitted.

For a full list of restricted items, please check the terms and conditions on:

**[cooplive.com](http://cooplive.com)**.



## **ACCESS FOR ALL**

### **We can provide publications in large print, audio and other formats**

If you require a copy of these documents in any other format or if you have difficulty accessing the additional information online, please email us at [agm@coop.co.uk](mailto:agm@coop.co.uk), call us on 0800 023 4708 or write to us at **Co-op Membership, Department 10703, 1 Angel Square, Manchester M60 0AG.**

Co-operative Group Limited, Registered number: 525R, Registered Office: 1 Angel Square, Manchester, M60 0AG, Registered in England/Wales.

[www.co-operative.coop](http://www.co-operative.coop)