

Principle FIVE

P5

Yorkshire Co-operative Resource Centre

November 2024

The Principle 5 Library has again been improved by a gift of books and documents, this time from The Open University. We have received a collection of material about workers co-ops and will be integrating them into the Library. Look out for the revised catalogue. But it will not be yet awhile.

This coincides with the establishment [workers.coop](https://www.workers.coop)
On the 30th October there was a gathering of workers co-ops - The Autumn Assembly took place in Sheffield and brought together worker co-ops from across the UK to build on liberating work, celebrate achievements and identify future opportunities.

The Co-operative Development Act 1978

Made possible the creation of The Co-operative Development Agency, a national body. It was through this legislation that co-operative development groups became established all over the country. The Agency ceased to exercise its functions, except for the purposes of winding itself up, on 30th September 1990.

Read more [HERE](#)

We have a copy of the Sheffield Co-operative Development Group Co-op News from 1990 and you can read it [HERE](#)

And also a copy of the SCDG Leaflet from about that time which you can read [HERE](#)

Most of the co-operative development bodies in Britain have now gone, but there is still some good activity. An example of this is [Stirchley.coop](#) in Birmingham.

Stirchley Co-operative Development (SCD) are a group of local people in housing and worker co-operatives who are building an affordable and eco-friendly residential and retail premises in the heart of Stirchley. They are developing land to house three local businesses along with 39 apartments.

This is an eco-friendly project with no car parking.

Tom Wragg spoke about Stirchley at a co-operative session which was part of [Fearless Cities South Yorkshire](#)

There were two other excellent panellists

Cath Muller - [A Commune in the North](#) and [Radical Routes](#)

and

Jo Taylor - [Solidarity Economy Association](#) also spoke

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Co-operative Change event

This one-day event in Manchester celebrated the Co-operative Party's recent election successes and explored the Labour & Co-operative government's policy commitments to the co-operative and mutual sectors in a series of conversations, panel discussions and keynote speeches. It covered co-op growth, community energy, local ownership and safer high streets.

You can read a report of the event in Co-op News [HERE](#)

or watch the whole event on youtube [HERE](#)

Co-op News

Co-op News has been a great source of information and co-operative education since its early days in 1871. And continues to be. Looking at the website it is easy to search for articles of interest which have appeared over the years. I have found some articles which were written about Principle 5.....

[Principle 5 index of Co-op News](#)

<https://www.thenews.coop/researchers-build-online-index-for-the-co-op-news/>

NOTE You can use the Principle 5 Co-op News index at:

<https://www.coopnews.principle5.coop/>

[Principle 5 Sheffield Co-operator](#)

<https://www.thenews.coop/principle-5-plots-the-revival-of-the-sheffield-co-operator/>

[Principle 5 Co-op Maps](#)

<https://www.thenews.coop/principle-5-launches-software-for-developing-co-op-diagrams/>

[Principle 5 Festival of Debate](#)

<https://www.thenews.coop/co-ops-on-the-agenda-at-sheffield-festival-of-debate/>

You can become a member of Co-op Press **[HERE](#)**

Or keep up with the news at: <https://www.thenews.coop/>



Abbeydale Brewery is now 100% employee owned

Abbeydale Brewery, Sheffield, founded in 1996 has over 50 employees and in addition to the brewery owns a pub - The **Rising Sun** at Nethergreen, Sheffield.

It has become an Employee Ownership Trust. Question, what is the difference between this and a co-operative?

Other Employee Ownership Trusts include:

Swann Morton

Gripple

Aardman Animations

Lush

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STIR *to*
ACTION

The Resource Centre always has copies of Stir magazine which are available for members. You can go to their excellent website at:

<https://www.stirtoaction.com/magazine>

Community Right to Buy

Across the country communities are being shut out as buildings are boarded up, destroyed or sold to developers and turned into spaces that fail to serve the needs of the local community.

A Community Right to Buy could change this by allowing communities the right of first refusal when spaces with significant community value come up for sale, such as empty shops, pubs, and community spaces. If done right, it could help revamp high streets and protect vital community hubs.

The Labour Government announced in its first King's Speech that it would be "empowering local communities with a strong new 'right to buy' for valued community assets, such as empty shops, pubs, and community spaces. This will help to revamp high streets and end the blight of empty premises."

This was first announced in 2022 by Lisa Nandy – then Shadow Levelling Up Secretary – where she said: "The right to bid for assets of community value...will be replaced by a powerful new Community Right to Buy. First refusal on assets of community value, and long-term vacant high street property too, and the right to buy them without competition. With the right to force a sale of land or buildings in a state of significant disrepair. They will have longer to raise the money – 12 months rather than six."

Power to Change has long campaigned for a Community Right To Buy.

Read their report **[HERE](#)**

**Members are always welcome to visit
the resource centre.**

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www.principle5.coop

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