

# Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee

10.00am, Tuesday 1 October 2013

## A Framework to Advance a Cooperative Capital 2012/17 – Joining the Cooperative Councils Innovation Network

Item number	7.4
Report number	
Wards	All

### Links

Coalition pledges	<a href="#">P6, P11, P15, P28, P37, P53</a>
Council outcomes	<a href="#">CO7, CO8, CO10, CO11, CO14, CO23, CO26</a>
Single Outcome Agreement	<a href="#">SO1, SO2, SO3, SO4</a>

### Alastair D Maclean

Director of Corporate Governance

Contact:

Nick Croft – Corporate Policy and Strategy Manger

Email: [nick.croft@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:nick.croft@edinburgh.gov.uk); Tel: 0131 469 3726

Graeme Mckechnie – Corporate Policy and Strategy Team – Third Sector

Email: [graeme.mckechnie@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:graeme.mckechnie@edinburgh.gov.uk); Tel: 0131 469 3816

# Executive summary

## **A Framework to Advance a Cooperative Capital 2012/17 – Joining the Cooperative Councils Innovation Network**

### Summary

---

On 25 October 2012, the Council approved a 'Framework to Advance a Cooperative Capital 2012/17'. The initiative is being led by the Cooperative Development Unit (CDU) within Corporate Governance, in partnership with council service areas and community planning partners.

The Framework consists of six core themes, including; developing cooperatives, cooperative community engagement, cooperative procurement, cooperative education, cooperative service design and cooperative corporate social responsibility. These themes align to Capital Coalition pledges to deliver cooperative energy, housing, child care and social care initiatives.

In order to further develop the Cooperative Capital project, it is proposed that the Council becomes a member of the Cooperative Councils Innovation Network (CCIN) for 2013/14 on a pilot basis. As the CCIN is currently focussed on English local authorities and legislation, the CDU will explore the feasibility of establishing a network of Scottish cooperative councils, linked to the CCIN.

### Recommendations

---

To agree to the Council becoming a member of the CCIN for the remainder of 2013/14 on a pilot basis, and to explore the feasibility of establishing a Scottish network of cooperative councils.

### Measures of success

---

- Delivery of pledge commitments relating to cooperative energy, housing, child care and social care initiatives.
- Number of successful initiatives brought about by the Framework.
- % positive satisfaction ratings of those involved in initiatives connected with the Cooperative Capital Framework, in particular those involved in community engagement, co-production and joint service design.

## Financial impact

---

The Council has negotiated reduced membership of the CCIN for the remainder of 2013/14 at a cost of £5,069. This money has been identified from the CDU. It is intended that membership be on a pilot basis to test the practical benefits.

## Equalities impact

---

Membership of the Network will improve the council's capacity to deliver on the public sector equality duty.

## Sustainability impact

---

Membership of the Network will improve the Council's capacity to deliver sustainability objectives and meet the requirements of climate change legislation.

## Consultation and engagement

---

Membership of the Network has no requirement for consultation or wider engagement efforts.

## Background reading / external references

---

- Council website pages: [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20234/cooperative\\_capital](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20234/cooperative_capital)
- Network website - [www.coopinnovation.co.uk](http://www.coopinnovation.co.uk)

## **A Framework to Advance a Cooperative Capital 2012/17 – Joining the Cooperative Councils Innovation Network**

### **1. Background**

---

- 1.1 The Capital Coalition's vision is to 'To build a cooperative and more prosperous Edinburgh in which every resident and community benefits'.
- 1.2 On 22 October 2012 the Council approved a 'Framework to Advance a Cooperative Capital 2012/17', and the establishment of a Cooperative Development Unit (CDU) within Corporate Governance, to support delivery of this vision, and progress implementation and monitoring of the Framework.
- 1.3 Two full progress reports have been considered by the Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee in November 2012 and May 2013. In addition, there have been specific reports to the Education, Children and Families Committee, and the Health, Wellbeing and Housing Committee, about housing, child-care and social care cooperative initiatives. All reports indicate good progress across Framework objectives.
- 1.4 While good progress is being made, the resources available from the Cooperative Councils Innovation Network provide an opportunity for Edinburgh to improve the pace and quality of delivery on framework objectives.

### **2. Main report**

---

- 2.1 The CCIN is a growing, active and independent network, currently consisting of 16 English councils, which are under Labour Party control. The CCIN is detached from any party political structures and is registered with the Local Government Association as an independent network. Recently, Councils under different political control are starting to apply to become members. The CCIN aims to enable councils to improve collaboration with citizens and communities, and strengthen cooperative practice. It is currently hosted by Oldham Council, and their Council Leader chairs the network.
- 2.2 It is proposed that the Council becomes the first Scottish Council to join the CCIN. This is in order that the City can begin to benefit from the wide range of opportunities the Network can offer, in particular:

- access to a specialist policy bank;
- improved engagement and learning from other cooperative councils;
- direct support from specialist development officers and expert advisors;
- access to evidence and research;
- a broad events programme;
- access to detailed case studies on cooperative initiatives; and
- free training and development opportunities.

2.3 Membership is subject to a cost of £5,069 for the remainder of 2013/14, and will be secured from the CDU resources in Corporate Governance. It is intended that this be on a pilot basis to test the practical benefits. Thereafter, as the CCIN is largely focussed on English local authorities, and UK Government local authority legislation which does not apply in Scotland, the CDU will explore the feasibility of establishing a Scottish network. This could consist of Scottish councils interested in progressing cooperative approaches, and could be linked to the existing CCIN.

### 3. Recommendations

---

3.1 To agree to the Council becoming a member of the CCIN for the remainder of 2013/14 on a pilot basis, and to explore the feasibility of establishing a Scottish network of cooperative councils.

#### **Alastair D Maclean**

Director of Corporate Governance

### Links

---

<b>Coalition pledges</b>	<p><b>P6</b> - Establish city-wide co-operatives for affordable childcare for working parents</p> <p><b>P11</b> - Encourage the development of co-operative housing arrangements</p> <p><b>P15</b> - Work with public organisations, the private sector and social enterprise to promote Edinburgh to investors</p> <p><b>P28</b> - Further strengthen our links with the business community by developing and implementing strategies to promote and protect the economic well being of the city</p> <p><b>P37</b> - Examine ways to bring the Council, care home staff and users together into co-operatives to provide the means to make life better for care home users</p>
--------------------------	---

<b>Council outcomes</b>	<p><b>P53</b> - Encourage the development of Community Energy Co-operatives</p> <p><b>CO7</b> - Edinburgh draws new investment in development and regeneration</p> <p><b>CO8</b> - Edinburgh's economy creates and sustains job opportunities</p> <p><b>CO10</b> - Improved health and reduced inequalities</p> <p><b>CO11</b> - Preventative and personalised support in place</p> <p><b>CO14</b> - Communities have the capacity to help support people</p> <p><b>CO23</b> - Well engaged and well informed – Communities and individuals are empowered and supported to improve local outcomes and foster a sense of community</p> <p><b>CO26</b> – The Council engages with stakeholders and works in partnership to improve services and deliver on agreed objectives.</p>
<b>Single Outcome Agreement</b>	<p><b>SO1</b> - Edinburgh's Economy Delivers increased investment, jobs and opportunities for all</p> <p><b>SO2</b> - Edinburgh's citizens experience improved health and wellbeing, with reduced inequalities in health</p> <p><b>SO3</b> - Edinburgh's children and young people enjoy their childhood and fulfil their potential</p> <p><b>SO4</b> - Edinburgh's communities are safer and have improved physical and social fabric</p>
<b>Appendices</b>	None