

Survey for co-operatives

Introduction

This survey is about disabled people's involvement in co-operatives in the UK. It is part of the research project "**Work without bosses, homes without landlords, and nothing about us without us: Researching disabled people's involvement in co-operatives in the UK**". You can find out more about [this research project](#) and [the researcher \(Steve Graby\)](#) at the research website.

The survey is meant for co-ops, not for individual co-op members. Therefore, it should only be answered once for each co-op. If possible, please check with the other members of your co-op whether someone else from the same co-op has answered it already. If you are a member of more than one co-op, please fill in the survey separately for each co-op.

The survey should typically take **no more than 15 minutes** to complete.

Some questions in this survey are only applicable to particular types of co-ops. Questions **11** to **13** are for housing co-ops, and questions **14** to **16** are for workers' co-ops (including multi-stakeholder co-ops where one member group are workers). Please do not answer these questions if you are answering for a different type of co-op. Questions **1** to **10** and **17** to **20** are for all types of co-ops.

This survey is anonymous. You will not be asked for your name or the name of your co-op. Data collected by this survey therefore cannot be traced to any individual person or organisation. The purpose of this survey is not to find out anything about any co-op in particular, but to understand trends across co-ops of all kinds throughout the UK.

By submitting your answers to this survey, you are consenting to use of the anonymous data in publications arising from this research, and to the data being deposited in the [Research Data Leeds repository](#), meaning that it may also be used by other researchers in future research.

You can either fill in your answers to this survey and save it as a new document, and email it back to me at s.graby@leeds.ac.uk, or print it, fill it in by hand and post it back to me c/o **Leeds University Business School, Maurice Keyworth Building, University of Leeds, Leeds, LS2 9JT**.

This survey is open until **31st May 2022**.

Questions

For all types of co-ops

1) What type of co-op are you answering for?

- Workers' co-op
- Housing co-op
- Other consumer co-op (*e.g. a shop owned by its customers or a social care co-op whose members are the service users*)
- Multi-stakeholder co-op (*a co-op which has more than one group of members, e.g. a social care co-op whose members include both the service users and the care workers*)
- Another type of co-op not listed above

If you answered another type of co-op, please describe what type of co-op your co-op is:

2) How many members does your co-op have?

- 5 or fewer
- 6-10
- 11-20
- 21-50
- 51-100
- More than 100

3) Are all members of your co-op directors?

- Yes
- No

3a) If not all members are directors, how many directors does your co-op have?

- 5 or fewer
- 6-10
- 11-20
- More than 20

4) When was your co-op established?

- Within the last year
- 1-2 years ago
- 2-5 years ago
- 5-10 years ago
- 10-20 years ago
- More than 20 years ago

5) In which region(s) of the UK does your co-op operate? (Please tick all that apply.)

- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Wales
- East Midlands
- East of England
- London
- North East of England
- North West of England
- South East of England
- South West of England
- West Midlands
- Yorkshire and the Humber
- Nationwide/no particular region

6) Does your co-op currently have disabled members who you are aware of?

- Yes
- No

6a) If no, has your co-op previously had disabled members who you were aware of?

- Yes
- No

7) Are you aware of anything that your co-op has done to meet (current or former) disabled members' access needs to enable them to participate in co-op meetings or governance?

- Yes
- No

7a) [Optional] If yes, please briefly describe what the access needs were and what your co-op did to meet them.

8) Are you aware of any disabled members who have left your co-op due to their access needs not being met within it?

- Yes
- No

8a) [Optional] If yes, do you know which access needs were the issue?

9) Does your co-op have meeting disabled people's needs stated as part of its mission or purpose? (*e.g. a housing co-op focused on accessible housing for disabled people; a social care co-op meeting disabled people's assistance needs; a workers' co-op which primarily employs disabled people or which produces assistive technologies or access equipment*)

Yes

No

Note: If this is the case, I may be interested in using your co-op as a case study! If you think your co-op might be interested in this, please contact me.

9a) If yes, was this an original aim of the co-op when it was founded?

Yes

No

Not sure

10) [Optional] Was your co-op founded/intended specifically by, or for the needs of, any other minority or oppressed group (*e.g. women, Black or other ethnic minority people, LGBTQ+ people*)?

Yes

No

10a) If so, which group(s)?

For housing co-ops only

11) How many houses/flats/other housing units does your co-op have?

- 1
- 2
- 3-5
- 6-10
- 11-20
- 21-50
- More than 50

12) Was any of your housing built, or commissioned to be built, by/for the co-op?

- Yes
- No

12a) If yes, was any of the housing built intentionally to meet disabled people's access needs?

- Yes
- No

12ai) If yes, how many housing units were built intentionally to meet disabled people's access needs?

12aii) [Optional] If known, which access needs was the housing built to meet? (e.g. wheelchair access, accessible kitchens or bathrooms/wet rooms, space for live-in carers/personal assistants)

12b) If no, does your co-op have any plans that you are aware of to build accessible housing to meet disabled people's access needs in the future?

- Yes
- No

13) Has any of your housing been altered or adapted (after being built, purchased or leased by the co-op) to meet disabled people's access needs?

- Yes
- No

13a) If yes, how many housing units were altered or adapted to meet disabled people's access needs?

13b) [Optional] If known, which access needs was the housing adapted to meet? (e.g. wheelchair access, accessible kitchens or bathrooms/wet rooms, space for live-in carers/personal assistants)

13c) If no, does your co-op have any plans that you are aware of to adapt any of your existing housing to meet disabled people's access needs in the future?

Yes

No

For workers' co-ops (including multi-stakeholder co-ops where one member group are workers) only

14) Does your co-op have a physical workplace?

Yes

No

14a) If yes, has your workplace been designed or adapted to meet disabled workers' access needs?

Yes

No

14ai) [Optional] If yes, which access needs was your workplace designed or adapted to meet, and what was done? (e.g. adapted work equipment, building alterations for wheelchair access, installing an accessible toilet, modifications to the sensory environment)

14b) If no, does your co-op have any plans that you are aware of to make adaptations for disabled workers' access needs in the future?

Yes

No

15) Do any members of your co-op work from home or remotely (some or all of the time)?

No

Yes, some but not all members

Yes, all members

15a) If yes, was the decision to do this made in order to meet members' access needs?

Yes

No

Not known

16) Has your co-op made changes to working times or working practices to accommodate a disabled member's access needs?

Yes

No

Not sure

16a) If yes, briefly describe what changes your co-op made.

For all types of co-ops

17) Does your co-op have premises open to the public (e.g. a shop, a cafe, a social centre)?

- Yes
 No

17a) If yes, are there access barriers for disabled people in your premises that you are aware of?

- Yes
 No

17ai) If yes, please briefly describe the barriers that you are aware of.
[free text box]

17b) If yes, is there anything that your co-op has done specifically to improve the accessibility of its premises or to welcome disabled customers/clients/visitors?

- Yes
 No
 Not sure

17bi) If yes, please briefly describe what your co-op did.

17bii) If no, does your co-op have any plans that you are aware of to improve the accessibility of its premises in the future?

- Yes
 No

18) Does your co-op have a website?

- Yes
 No

18a) When designing or commissioning your co-op's website, did your co-op seek to make sure that it was accessible to disabled users (e.g. people who use screenreader software)?

- Yes
 No
 Not sure

18ai) If no, does your co-op have any plans that you are aware of to improve the accessibility of its website in the future?

Yes

No

19) Does your co-op send out regular communications to its members (e.g. a newsletter or email updates)?

Yes

No

19a) If yes, are your communications made available in alternative formats to meet disabled members' access needs?

Yes

No

19ai) If yes, which formats do you provide? (Please tick all that apply.)

Large print

Braille

Audio recording

Easy Read

British Sign Language

Other (please describe):

19aii) If no, why not?

No member has asked for them

The co-op cannot afford to provide them

The co-op does not have the technical skills to provide them

The co-op was not aware of alternative formats or of the need for them

Other reason (please describe):

Not known

20) Is there anything else you would like to add about co-ops and disability?

Thank you for completing this survey!

If you have any questions about the survey or the wider research project, or if the survey raised any concerns for you about your co-op, please feel free to [contact me](#) to discuss this.

If you have serious concerns regarding co-operative governance or accessibility and inclusion issues, I may be able to put you in touch with consultants or support organisations on these topics. You may also be interested in my [co-op links and resources page](#).

I am also looking for disabled people who are or have been members of co-ops in the UK to interview about their experiences. If you or any other members of your co-op would like to be interviewed, please [contact me](#).

If your co-op has many disabled members, was started by disabled people, or if its mission or purpose is to meet disabled people's needs or its business is in disability-related products or services, I may also want to use it as one of my case studies. Again, if you might be interested in this, please [contact me](#). You can see my call for participants for these other parts of my research [here](#).