

<b>MDA No.</b>	1	2	6	5
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Title: Co-operatives

### **Executive Summary**

On 20 January 2021, the Economy Committee resolved:

*That authority be delegated to the Chair, in consultation with party Group Lead Members, to agree any output from the discussion.*

Following consultation with party Group Lead Members, the Chair agreed the Committee's letter to the Mayor on co-operatives, as attached at **Appendix 1**.

The terms of reference for this project were approved by the Chair under delegated authority. Officers confirm that the letter and its recommendations fall within these terms of reference. The report will be noted at the next appropriate meeting of the Committee.

### **Decision**

That the Chair, in consultation with the party Group Lead Members, agrees the Committee's letter to the Mayor on co-operatives, as attached at **Appendix 1**.

### **Assembly Member**

I confirm that I do not have any disclosable pecuniary interests in the proposed decision and take the decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct for elected Members of the Authority.

The above request has my approval.

**Signature**



**Date** 19/03/2021

**Printed Name** Léonie Cooper AM, Chair of the Economy Committee

## Decision by an Assembly Member under Delegated Authority

Notes:

1. The Lead Officer should prepare this form for signature by relevant Members of the Assembly to record any instance where the Member proposes to take action under a specific delegated authority. The purpose of the form is to record the advice received from officers, and the decision made.
2. **The 'background' section (below) should be used to include an indication as to whether the information contained in / referred to in this Form should be considered as exempt under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA), or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR). If so, the specimen Annexe (attached below) should be used. If this form does deal with exempt information, you must submit both parts of this form for approval together.**

### Background and proposed next steps:

On 20 January 2021, the Economy Committee resolved:

*That authority be delegated to the Chair, in consultation with party Group Lead Members, to agree any output from the discussion.*

Following consultation with party Group Lead Members, the Chair agreed the Committee's letter to the Mayor on co-operatives, as attached at **Appendix 1**.

The terms of reference for this project were approved by the Chair under delegated authority. Officers confirm that the letter and its recommendations fall within these terms of reference. The report will be noted at the next appropriate meeting of the Committee.

### Confirmation that appropriate delegated authority exists for this decision

Signed by Committee      L J Harvey  
Services

Date      18/03/2021

Print Name: Lauren Harvey

Tel:      x4383

### Financial implications

#### NOT REQUIRED

Signed by Finance

N/A

Date

.....

Print Name

N/A

Tel:

.....

**Legal implications**

The Chair of the Economy Committee has the power to make the decision set out in this report.

Signed by Legal



Date 19/03/2021

Print Name

Emma Strain, Monitoring Officer

Tel: X 4399

Additional information should be provided supported by background papers. These could include for example the business case, a project report or the results of procurement evaluation.

**Supporting detail/List of Consultees:**

Shaun Bailey AM (Deputy Chairman) and Caroline Russell AM

**Public Access to Information**

Information in this form (Part 1) is subject to the FoIA, or the EIR and will be made available on the GLA Website within one working day of approval.

If immediate publication risks compromising the implementation of the decision (for example, to complete a procurement process), it can be deferred until a specific date. Deferral periods should be kept to the shortest length strictly necessary. **Note:** this form (Part 1) will either be published within one working day after it has been approved or on the defer date.

**Part 1 – Deferral****Is the publication of Part 1 of this approval to be deferred? No**

Until what date: N/A

**Part 2 – Sensitive information**

Only the facts or advice that would be exempt from disclosure under FoIA or EIR should be included in the separate Part 2 form, together with the legal rationale for non-publication.

**Is there a part 2 form - No****Lead Officer/Author**

Signed

Dan Tattersall

Date:  
19/03/2021

Print Name

**Dan Tattersall**

Tel: x1328

Job Title

**Senior Policy Adviser**

Countersigned by  
Director

*E. Williams*  
.....

Date:  
19.03.2021

Print Name

**Ed Williams**

Tel: x4399

# LONDON ASSEMBLY

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## **Leonie Cooper AM** **Chair of the Economy Committee**

The Mayor of London  
(Sent by email)

19 March 2021

To the Mayor of London,

In January, the Economy Committee met to discuss the role that co-operatives could play in London's economic recovery from COVID-19 and explore how the Mayor could integrate a greater focus on co-operatives into London's economic recovery plans. The Committee heard from two expert guests: Seema Malhotra, Labour and Co-operative Party MP for Feltham and Heston; and Jessica Jacobs from Co-ops for London.

There are 823 co-operatives in London<sup>1</sup> covering a range of different models and in different sectors, which can typically be defined as either housing/ tenant co-operatives, worker co-operatives or consumer co-operatives.<sup>2</sup> As Jessica Jacobs told the Committee, a co-operative is "*in the broadest sense... a group of people who work together for the greater good of that group of people*". The Committee heard that there is potential for a focus on co-operatives in London's economic recovery to harness the community spirit displayed across London in response to the pandemic. Seema Malhotra MP said "*the role of co-operatives in the recovery is an idea, in a sense, whose time has come once again. If we look at what has happened during COVID, the community response has been unprecedented. We probably all have examples that we can cite from our own local areas.*"

Guests informed the Committee that an integration of co-operatives into London recovery plans could help to provide sustainable solutions that deliver benefits for the communities in which they

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<sup>1</sup> According to latest 2019 data: Co-operatives UK, [Open data](#)

<sup>2</sup> Co-operatives First, [Types of Co-operatives](#)

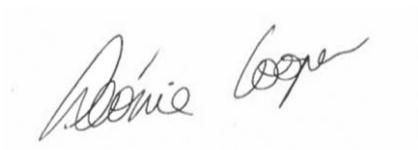
are located, and could be adaptable to some of the anticipated societal shifts following the pandemic, such as a greater focus on shopping locally, and an increase in homeworking.

The Committee therefore recommends that the next Mayor of London actively considers the role of co-operatives in London's economic recovery from COVID-19, by supporting existing co-operatives and encouraging and supporting the creation of new co-operatives.

I would be grateful to receive a response to our findings and recommendations by 31 May 2021.

Please send your response by email to the Committee's clerk Lauren Harvey ([Lauren.Harvey@london.gov.uk](mailto:Lauren.Harvey@london.gov.uk)).

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leonie Cooper', written over a light blue grid background.

**Leonie Cooper AM**  
**Chair of the Economy Committee**