

Supporting Together
Co - Operative

A Time for Change
September 2020

A Company run by the Members for the Members

What is a Co - Operative ?

It's a company run by people who have a personal and vested interest in securing the best possible outcomes that meet their needs and remain in control of the decision making process.

Why do we need one ?

- Present services often do not meet the expectation of the individual's needs.
- They work against the Carer and not with them.
- They are expensive and agreed individual budgets are not ringfenced for that individual.
- They are slow at responding to change.
- They have poor monitoring systems in place.
- They do not provide the security Carers need to know the service quality will be maintained when they are no longer around.

Our Aim, Values & Principles

- To provide a different approach to support where the individual's and their family are central to the decision making process
- The values and principles will be set by the members with the core aim of developing the independence, support and lifestyle for the individual so the family can have confidence in the type of support that will be provided when they are no longer around

How will the Co - Operative be different to other Companies.

- The individual and family will be members of the Co – Operative and be the decision makers for the organisations delivery of support
 - Carer Members
 - Individual Members
- The Members will be a stable management team, in it for the long haul not just coming in with new ideas only to leave before they are implemented.
- All decisions made will start from the Individual Members group
 - Bottom up not top down.
- It's often the small things that make the difference our strategy will not aim for the sky but will always look at what really makes a difference in our individual members day to day lives.

How will the Co - Operative be different to other Companies.

- Members can be open and honest amongst like minded people and learn from one another not only about care but other aspects of how a Company is run.
- The Co – Operative will grow by Members offering up their skills and working collaboratively – everyone has something to offer
- As a joint group our voice will carry more weight when we are looking for housing allocation or new service provision and we can be the Company to trial projects always moving the service forward.

How will it work ?

- The Company will be registered as not for profit limited by guarantee so nobody need fear that any of their personal monies will be at risk. The limit can be set at a £1 per registered Director with no risk at all for members.
- The article for the running of the Company will be written in line with the principles of a Co - Operative with all members having equal say in how the Company is run.
- There must be an active member linked to all Individual Members, this can be a Carer, Relative or close friend but they must be willing to participate and represent the best interest of the Individual Member.
- The Company will run by taking the Individual Members comments and concerns as the priority bottom up rather than top down.
- Each Individual Member will have an Individual Service Fund (ISF) calculated by their specific support needs and an administrative cost.
- All administration will be centralised with an administrative cost attached to each member.

Interested Parties

- Individual Members being able to take control of their daily lives
- Carer Members seeing their ideas put into practice and knowing that this service is for the Individuals lifetime.
- Professional Team working in a positive way with a Carer team who have support in developing ideas and dealing with problems.
- Commissioners will have a cost effective service only paying for the services provided to each individual.
- Social Services being at the forefront of a new and developing service that ticks all the boxes
- Jointly working positively on a service that is tangible without any third party interest holding up progress.

Why back the Co - Operative ?

It will create change for the future of services.

When the large institutions were closing back in the 1980's there was enthusiasm for change it was an exciting time. Since then things don't seem to have moved forward at the same pace or in a coordinated way looking at good service models.

For those people who moved out of hospital it was life changing but for other born in the 1970 upwards have not had the opportunity to be part of such a progressive change of service and attitude.

We need things to change and move forward not backwards this is that opportunity.

We need your support to change the future