

COUNCIL		
Report Title	Motion 5 in the name of Councillor Hall to be seconded by Councillor Morrison	
Key Decision	n/a	Item No.
Ward	n/a	
Contributors	Chief Executive (Head of Business & Committee)	
Class	Part 1	Date: July 20 2016

“The Council notes:

- That there are nearly 7,000 independent co-operative businesses across the UK, each owned and democratically run by their customers, employees, suppliers or members of their local community.
- Today, the co-operative movement is a significant part of the UK’s economy, growing by 21% to £33billion, and outperforming the economy as a whole during the recent recession.
- The number of people who own and control the UK’s co-operatives has grown by to 17.5m - nearly a quarter of the UK’s population. From credit unions to community farms – the rise in co-operative ownership is a significant development for the UK’s business sector, meaning that the number of co-op members continues to outstrip the number of shareholders in the UK.

This Council believes:

- That the co-operative model provides a sustainable way of providing local government services that empower residents, service users and employees, giving them a fair share and an equal say.
- Local Councils up and down the country have already put these values into practice in a number of ways, for example developing the co-operative sector, resident and employee owned companies and co-operative schools.
- That Lewisham’s vibrant co-operative sector including Brent Knoll and Watergate Co-operative School Trust, Phoenix Community Housing and Lewisham and Bromley Credit Union promote involvement and service improvement.
- That the Council has the opportunity to “chosed co-operative” when considering the future of local services, giving residents and communities more of a say in their area.

Therefore, we call on the council to:

- Work to incorporate co-operative values and principles when planning services and in its engagement with local residents.
- Publicise existing co-operative good practice within the council and across the London Borough of Lewisham.
- Audit our contractors and suppliers on how many meet the FairTax Mark standards, pay the Living Wage and meet appropriate standards on apprenticeships.”