

Food Co-ops and Buying Groups



What types of project can we support?

- Our project supports any type of community-run outlet, including buying clubs, stalls, bag or box schemes, mobile stores and shops.

Main things that they have in common are that they are:

- Are run by the community for the community
- Aim to supply produce at more affordable prices than other outlets
- Are run on a not for profit basis
- Generally rely on the support of volunteers, either in the day-to day running or on the committee
- However they differ in what they sell, when they sell it, how they sell it and where they sell it.

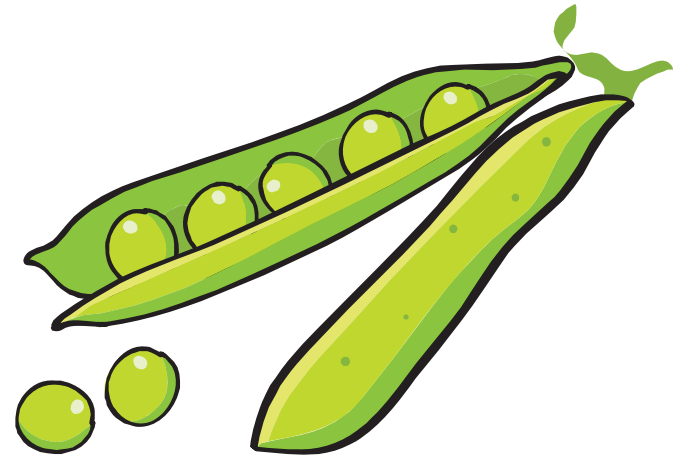
What support can we offer?

- Free food co-ops toolkit
- Free 1:1 advice and support from our team of regional advisers
- Free leaflets and banners
- Free listing on the food co-ops finder
- Exchange visits to existing projects
- Networking events
- Training courses
- Referrals to enterprise support and government advice
- Food co-ops e-newsletter with info on fun events, training, etc.
- Promotion via newsletter, magazines, Facebook



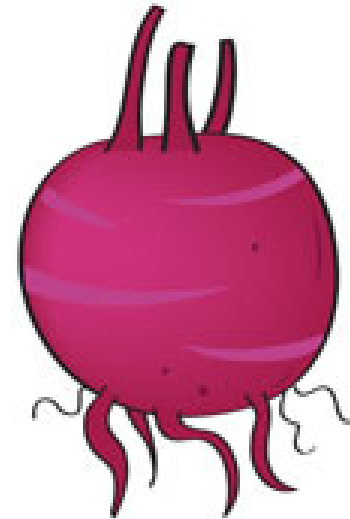
Setting up a food co-op in 10 P's:

1. People
2. Planning
3. Produce
4. Premises
5. Practical resources
6. Procedures and pricing
7. Promotion and publicity
8. Permits and licences
9. Policies and principles
10. Progress



Key things you need to consider:

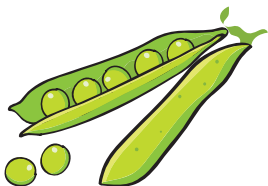
- Competition
- Target customers
- Scale
- Time and resources required
- Pricing
- Staffing
- Admin / finance
- Cost / benefit analysis



Key Ingredients for success



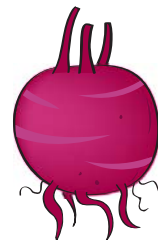
High quality,
good value produce



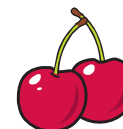
Committed
volunteers and staff



Marketing and publicity



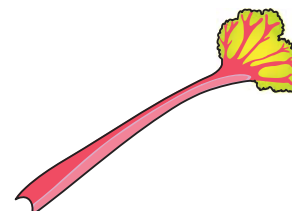
Good location



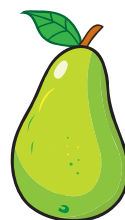
Partnership
working



Sufficient
time and resources



Finding out what
people want and need



Community
involvement

Visit our website www.foodcoops.org to find out more or follow us at www.facebook.com/foodcoops

FoodCoops.org
the home of food co-ops on the web

Home
About food co-ops
Food co-ops toolkit
Food co-ops finder
Add your co-op
News and events
About us
Contact us

More and more people are setting up food co-ops so they can get good food at an affordable price. Our food co-ops website can help you find out if there's already a food co-op in your area, or if not will give you all the information you need to set up your own food co-op.

Set up a food co-op
Our food co-ops toolkit aims to highlight all the key things that you need to think about if you want to set up your own food co-op.

Find your nearest food co-op
Use our interactive map to find your nearest food co-op or search by entering your postcode below.
 enter your postcode

Add your co-op to the finder
If you want to promote your food co-op and attract new customers add your details to our food co-ops finder here.

Sign up to our e-newsletter
Enter your email address below to join the food co-ops e-newsletter.
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