

# Congress 2021

Annual Report of Co-operatives UK 2020

<https://www.uk.coop/sites/default/files/2021-05/Annual%20Report%202020.pdf>

**Co-operatives UK** was founded in 1870 as the Co-operative Central Board, changing its name to the Co-operative Union before finally becoming Co-operatives UK following its merger with the [Industrial Common Ownership Movement](#) (ICOM) in 2001.

The **Co-operative Congress** is the national conference of the UK Co-operative Movement. The first of the modern congresses took place in 1869 following a series of meetings called the "[Owenite](#) Congress" in the 1830s.

The first of the modern Congresses was held in London. It was the only one of the modern series not to be organised by Co-operatives UK: this was because one of the orders of business for the first Congress was the creation of the organisation, then called the Co-operative Central Board. Co-operatives UK was founded out of concerns that the success of the Co-operative Movement might lead to a loss of identity and its original vision, and was intended to be a national organisation to bind the Movement together and emphasise the role of co-operatives in wider society.

**Co-operative News** has been published continuously since 1871, one year after the founding of **Co-operatives UK**. Every Co-operative Congress has been reported in Co-operative News since 1871.

The current edition of Co-operative News, July 2021 covers this years Congress.

[\*\*Congress 2021: we are the builders\*\*](#)

[\*\*A resilient co-op economy\*\*](#)

**Dan Jarvis, Mayor of Sheffield City Region spoke about the role of co-operatives in the Region**

[\*\*National employee ownership drive opens first hub in Sheffield\*\*](#)