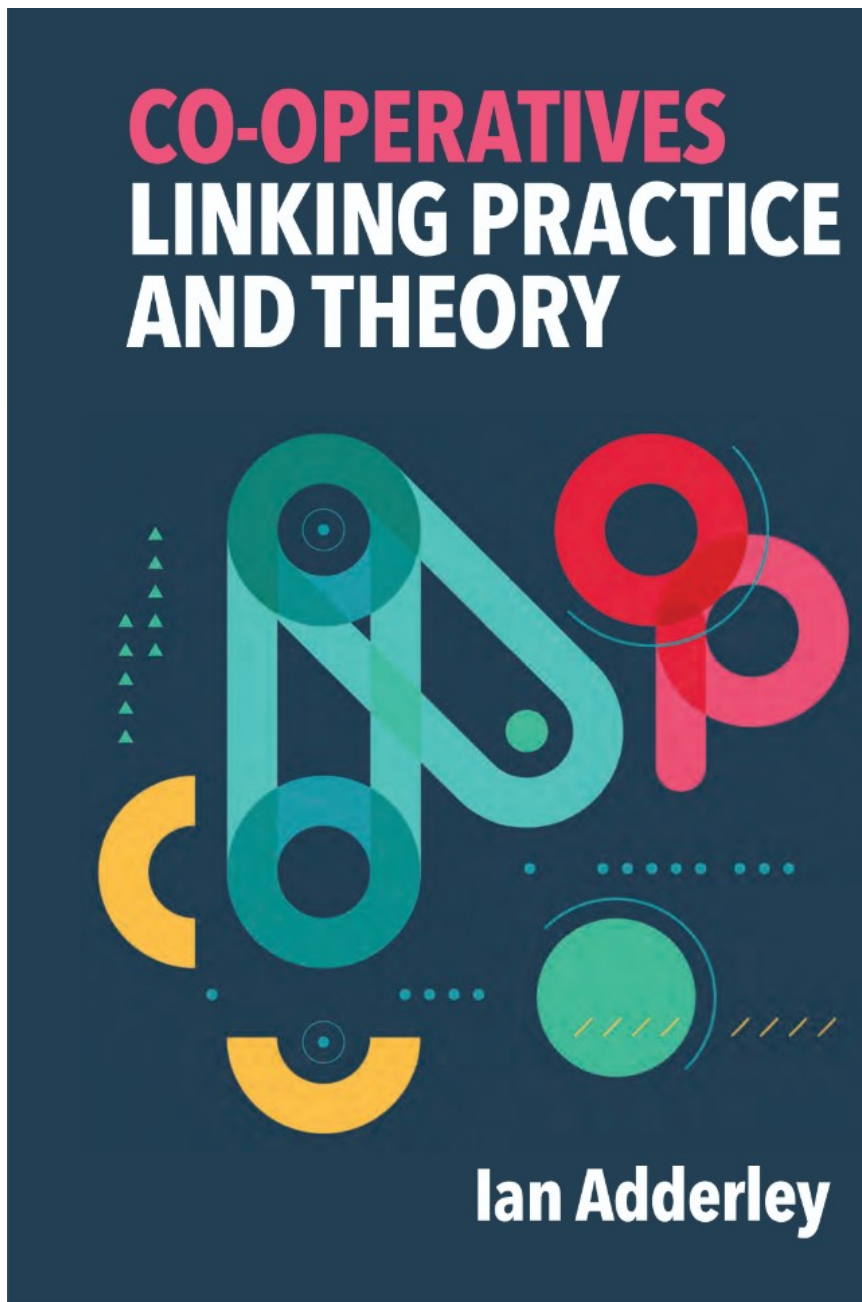


Principle FIVE

P5

Yorkshire Co-operative Resource Centre

July 2026



Co-operatives: Linking Practice and Theory is available to borrow from the P5 library

Book Review published in the Sheffield Co-operator

Co-operatives: Linking Practice and Theory by Ian Adderley is a comprehensive introduction to co-operative principles. The foreword includes a recommendation of the book by the UK Society for Co-operative Studies, and for good reason. The history of the cooperative movement is rich and expansive, with hundreds of texts surveying various points in the movement's history.

As Adderley found when he decided to write this book, there has not been a good, singular introductory text for quite some time. Now he has provided one. For a person who has newly discovered cooperatives, the first section of this book provides a fantastic summary including a brief explanation of the history, principles and operations of various co-operatives. His summary of the contemporary co-operative movement is extensive, and serves to show the influence and reach of the movement. In a way, it may have been advisable to publish this first section of the book as a separate pamphlet.

At 100 pages long, it remains an accessible introduction to co-operative ideals, without the weight of the technical understanding which comes later on.

The second section of the book provides an overview of the technical context of co-operatives. With Adderley's background as a lawyer, his technical summaries and explanations are very well articulated. Despite the complexity of the legal structures and systems he explores, his prose remains thoroughly digestible, even for a reader who has no background in either co-operatives or law.

The third and final section of the book deals with the ideology of the co-operative movement, from the core principles espoused by the Rochdale Pioneers to the current goals and aims of the international movement. Here, Adderley addresses the complex question of political neutrality

within the co-operative movement. Admirably, he presents a wide variety of the viewpoints expressed in the movement, without taking a particular stance. This is especially important due to this work's position as an introductory text, and Adderley enables the reader to make their own mind up, or research further with his comprehensive list of references.

Overall, this book represents an incredible achievement in successfully bringing together the expansive and scattered explorations of the co-operative movement. In one book, Adderley builds on the rich tradition of the co-operative movement with a fantastic introduction to the movement's history, activities and ideology.

Co-operatives: Linking Practice and Theory by Ian Adderley is published by Co-operative Press Limited and the UK Society for Co-operative Studies. You can borrow it from the P5 Library or, You can download a digital copy available both as a PDF and an Epub file - see below:

<https://www.ukscs.coop/pages/co-operatives-linking-practice-and-theory>

While copies are free to download, you can also [make a donation to UKSCS](#).



June 2026

Special issue written by Sheffield University students
Available now. Contact steve@principle5.coop for a copy.

Crackdown on profiteers through children's social care shake-up

Children in care and foster families will benefit from a new model of children's social care being rolled out more widely across England, expanding foster care, cracking down on profiteering, and ensuring that vulnerable children locked in illegal children's homes instead get the tailored, individual support they need.

Five new Regional Care Cooperatives (RCCs) have been confirmed and four new Fostering Hubs are going live before the end of the year – a significant expansion of the new model of children's social care which the government has been testing and trialling over the past few years. RCCs are partnerships between social workers, care providers and other key services like the police and health workers that operate across multiple local authority areas to deliver better outcomes for children in care.

Together, the seven RCCs will cover more than 100 local authorities, giving local areas real control over the care market for the first time – driving out profiteering, eliminating unregistered and poor-quality placements, and ensuring children are placed closer to home in settings that actually meet their needs.

Too many children in care are being placed in expensive, unsuitable settings far from home – and in the worst cases, locked away in illegal unregistered homes. [A report from the Children's Commissioner](#) found that some local authorities are spending £1 million per year on individual children in some cases – an unsustainable situation.

This month (July 2026) the government is opening applications for the £23.1 million Home Again programme, which will give children with the most complex needs a single, coordinated plan bringing together social care, health, education and youth justice so that support is tailored, targeted, and genuinely focused on the individual child.

It builds on the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act which passed earlier this year and introduced expanded support for children in the care system and care leavers.

To read in full this announcement from the Department of Education see:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/crackdown-on-profiteers-through-childrens-social-care-shake-up>

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For news and updates about the Co-operative Movement:
UK Society for Co-operative Studies
<https://www.ukscs.coop/pages/news>

and

Co-operative News:
<https://www.thenews.coop/>

For information about co-operatives in Sheffield:
https://sheffield.coop/wiki/Main_Page

For other news and updates in the Sheffield Area

Alt Sheff

<https://www.alt-sheff.org/>

STIR *to* ACTION

Lottery boost for social clubs with development scheme from Stir to Action

The scheme aims to bring community organisers, business support and funding to clubs in areas of deprivation across England

Co-op News

June 12, 2026

Ciarán Daly

Social clubs in some of the country's most deprived areas are due to receive a major boost, thanks to a new £2.7million National Lottery-funded scheme aimed at tackling poverty, inequality and social isolation.

Launching this month, the 21st Century Social Clubs initiative, delivered by development co-op Stir to Action, aims to support and strengthen the role that member-owned social clubs play in their communities, in order to drive local regeneration and cohesion.

You can read the full article at:

<https://www.thenews.coop/lottery-boost-for-social-club-scheme-delivered-by-stir-to-action/>

Principle 5 subscribes to Stir magazine:

<https://www.stirtoaction.com/>

Principle 5 Members and visitors are always welcome to book an appointment to come to the library.

We look forward to seeing you.

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