

## Meeting of the Cross Party Group on Co-operatives and Mutuals, 27/04/22

### Attendees

Name	Organisation
Vikki Howells (Chair)	Member of the Senedd
Daniel Roberts (Secretary)	Cwmpas
Derek Walker	Cwmpas
Mike Erskine	Cwmpas
Donna Coyle	Cwmpas
Sarah Evans	Cwmpas
Alex Still	Senedd Support Staff
Alun Jones	Social Investment Cymru WCVVA
Andy Green	Grow Social Capital
Eleri Williams	Building Communities Trust
Elin Hywel	Senedd Support Staff
Gareth Andrews	Vale Cricket Club
Gareth Jones	TownSq
Brian Colley	Glyn Wylfa
Glenn Bowen	Cwmpas
Harry Thompson	Institute of Welsh Affairs
Keith Henson	Barcud Cyf
Leonie Ramondt	Swansea CoHousing
Maggie Joan Haggas	3rd Age Hostelling and Housing/Holistic Hostels Limited
Mark Gahan	Severn Wye
Mark White	Smart Money Cymru Credit Union
Martin Little	TPAS Cymru
Matthew Reardon	Welcome to our Woods
May Baxter-Thornton	Cymoedd Creadigol
Michelle Rowson-Woods	The Coalfields Regeneration Trust
Paula Lunnon	Cwmpas
Robin Lewis	Senedd Support Staff
Ross Edwards	Garrison Farm
Sibani Roy	NWAMI
Josh Chown	Cwmpas

### Minutes of the Meeting

The meeting was started by the Chair, Vikki Howells MS. She began the meeting by congratulating the secretariat of the group, the Wales Co-operative Centre, for their recent rebrand and new name, Cwmpas. Then, she made members and attendees of the group aware of an online event on September the 14<sup>th</sup> of May, to celebrate Robert Owen and building on his legacy.

The first presentation of the meeting was by Dr Daniel Roberts, Policy and Research Officer at Cwmpas. He gave an overview of a new report, 'Building Stronger Local Economies', that has been published by Cwmpas to bridge the gap between communities or those delivering services, and policy and legislation. It introduced the idea of building community wealth and gave examples of how this can be done with specific approaches including the foundational economy, social value and social enterprise.

Next, Dr Sarah Evans gave a presentation on the work Cwmpas is doing across different sectors and with different partners to embed social value and develop new approaches to economic development. Derek Walker also gave an overview of the work on employee ownership in Wales, which following a Welsh Government commitment to double the number of employee-owned businesses in Wales, has seen several new conversions in recent months.

Finally, Donna Coyle, Co-operative Care and Support Manager, discussed how these principles and approaches worked in the social care sector specifically. She explained three projects they were working on; a Welsh Government funded project to increase social value delivery models in care and support, along with guidance for commissioners and procurers to invest in social value models; Drive Wales - a collaborative project focused on 'person-centred' service delivery informing the Foundational Economy strategy to increase and create opportunities for the third sector to supply more social care services; and a National Lottery Community Fund project, Community-led care: Solutions to social care issues, which is due to start in the summer.

The meeting ended with a discussion among the attendees on the ideas discussed in the presentations and how they related to their work, with issues such as volunteering, local government and the potential of social enterprise discussed. The date of the next meeting will be set and distributed to members and attendees shortly.