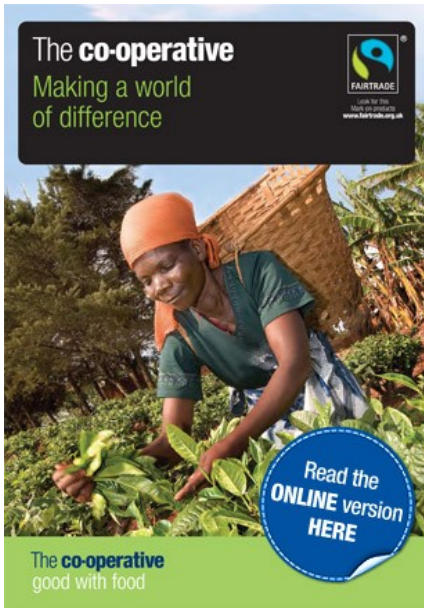


# Governance at Midcounties Co-operative

## Board of Directors

The Society is governed by a Board of 16 directors elected by and from the Society's members - a fundamental principle of any co-operative enterprise. A list of the Society's current directors can be found at the end of this page.



The Board has certain key responsibilities of which two stand out in particular. First, the Board sets the Society's overall objectives and strategy and monitors progress against these; second, the Board seeks to ensure that the Society operates and adheres to [the co-operative values and principles](#) set out by the International Co-operative Alliance.

To help deliver these imperatives and its other responsibilities the Board has:

- a set of Guiding Principles which provide the framework and expectations for the way directors interact with one another and with others with whom they have business, and
- a formal [schedule of matters reserved](#) for its decision as the Society's rules prescribe that certain duties and responsibilities can only be decided by the Board.

The Board has also delegated some of its other responsibilities to various Board committees (all elected by members):

Audit and Risk Committee

Remuneration Committee

Membership and Strategy Committee

## How do I become a director?

- We ask for nominations during July/August. You will see posters displayed in our stores and branches.
- To stand for election, you will need to complete a nomination form and be nominated by 2 other members of the Society. You will also need to write 250 words about why members should elect you as a director of the Society - this will be published in the candidates' address booklet and circulated to members with their voting papers
- As noted above, elections are held in September/October when we ask members to vote on those candidates nominated for election
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## What does being a director involve?

In terms of **practicalities** you should be aware of the following:

- **Meetings** - 11 Board meetings are held each year. 7 meetings are held on a Monday evening from 5.00pm until approximately 9.00pm and 4 are held on a Saturday usually lasting until late lunchtime, with presentations and discussion sessions on the Friday evening beforehand.
- **Meeting venues** - meetings are held at the Society's Head office in Warwick. Transport can be provided if required, and the costs of childcare/elderly care are also reimbursed
- **Preparation work** - Board papers are circulated several days in advance of each meeting. You will need to commit time to read these and prepare fully to maximise your contribution to the Board
- **Training** - directors are given the opportunity to develop their skills through training courses if they wish
- **Fees** - directors are paid a fee which currently stands at £7,139 per year
- **Term of office** - the term of office is 3 years. After then you will need to seek re-election

As regards the **overall role**, you should note that the role of a director is an important one. Directors represent the Society's members and take all the Society's key strategic decisions, so are ultimately responsible for the success of the Society.