

# 10.03.2011 – Co-operatives Fortnight



Co-operative UK are inviting all co-operatives to actively participate in Co-operative Fortnight (June 25th - July 9th 2011) whilst calling on the Government to support co-operative enterprises and real action to narrow the gap between rich and poor.

Co-operatives UK believe the UK economy must be shared more fairly. Shared ownership and the co-operative model have a long history of providing greater social and economic equality and NACO support Co-ops UK in campaigning for the co-operative model to form a more integral part of our economy.

We fully support the creation of a manifesto for shared wealth. The gap between rich and poor is widening – one half of the UK population now owns just 1% of the wealth, a huge reduction on a generation ago when they had 12%.

Co-operatives UK call upon the government to:

- encourage business to share profits with staff, customers and communities more widely.
- Promote community ownership as one way to save lifeline services, such as village shops and pubs, and enable people to take action on housing, arts, sport, land finance and green energy.
- Cut red tape so that it is as easy to start a co-operative as any other form of business

For more information on Co-operative Fortnight and Co-operatives UK's manifesto, visit:

[www.uk.coop/yourstoshare/](http://www.uk.coop/yourstoshare/)