

Date: 7 May 2013



**Oldham**  
Council

Carolyn Downs  
Chief Executive  
Local Government Association  
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Dear Carolyn,

Please find below an application from the Co-operative Councils' Innovation Network for your consideration as a Special Interest Group of the LGA. We understand that the next meeting of the LGA Leadership Board is on the 12<sup>th</sup> June 2013 and would ask that our application is submitted to that meeting.

The Network will have its official launch at the LGA Conference in Manchester at a fringe event on the 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

#### **Application to the Local Government Association for Special Interest Group (SIG) Status**

<b>Name of Group</b>	<b>Co-operative Councils' Innovation Network</b>
<b>Host Authority</b>	<b>Oldham MBC</b>
<b>Contact</b>	<b>Councillor Jim McMahon Oldham MBC – Interim Chair of Network</b>

#### **Membership of Group**

With 15 founder Local Authority Members (see appendix 1), the Co-operative Councils Innovation Network is a network of Local Authorities, other public agencies, think tanks and charities, working together to drive innovation in public services. Membership is open to all local authorities committed to our purpose (detailed below).

#### **Purpose of the Group**

As the public sector faces unprecedented challenges ranging from an ageing population to economic stagnation and rapidly dwindling resources, we need a fresh and innovative approach to the way public services work together with communities.

The Co-operative Councils Innovation Network will build on the work of the Co-operative Councils' Network. This means working in partnership with communities, the third sector, and with others across the public and private sector. It means that our innovative practice will be underpinned by the values of co-operation - self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and solidarity.

The Co-operative Councils Innovation Network will frame the debate on the future of sustainable solutions to public sector challenges. Our work will ultimately improve outcomes for communities by enabling members to develop radical innovation in policy and practice, sharing best practice and learning, and enabling innovators to chart new territory together.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim McMahon". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

Councillor Jim McMahon  
Leader Oldham MBC & Interim Chair of the Co-operative Councils' Innovation Network

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charlie Parker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C'.

Charlie Parker  
Chief Executive Oldham MBC