

Co-operative Enterprise – The Democratic Alternative (SCQF level 5)/Assessment Support
Pack/Instruments of Assessment

Instrument of Assessment 1

This assessment covers the following part of the unit specification

Co-operative Enterprise – The Democratic Alternative (SCQF level 5)	
Learning Outcome 1	Demonstrate an understanding of the Values and Principles of Co-operative Enterprise.
PC 1.1	Investigate the co-operative values. Compare and contrast how two different types of existing co-operative enterprises (eg a large retail co-operative and a community co-operative) demonstrate these values.
PC 1.2	Examine the ethical policy of one of the above co-operative enterprises. Identify the characteristics which distinguish them from other organisations which might adopt these ethical values.
PC 1.3	Investigate the co-operative principles. Compare how the two different types of co-operative enterprise investigated in PC1.1 have used these principles to put their values into practice.

*To achieve all Outcomes and Performance Criteria of this Unit candidates will require to have examined simple case studies of at **least two** co-operative enterprises, one social enterprise and two different types of private enterprises. These case studies may be used to illustrate Performance Criteria in all Learning Outcomes.*

		Marks
1	Describe the six values on which co-operative enterprises are based.	6
2	Using two co-operative enterprises that you have studied, (eg a large retail co-operative and a community co-operative), compare how they demonstrate each of these values.	8
3	Using one of the co-operative enterprises selected above in question 2, describe its ethical policy.	4
4	Other organisations may demonstrate ethical values. Identify the characteristics of the co-operative which distinguishes it from other organisations which might adopt similar ethical values.	2
5	There are seven co-operative principles. Using the two different co-operative enterprises selected in question 2, compare how they have used these co-operative principles to put their values into practice.	5
	Total	25

Instrument of Assessment 2

This assessment covers the following part of the unit specification

Co-operative Enterprise – The Democratic Alternative (SCQF level 5)	
Learning Outcome 2	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the essential elements of the co-operative business model.
PC 2.1	Define what is meant by members of a Co-operative. Illustrate using an example of an existing co-operative enterprise.
PC 2.2	Describe and explain the rights and responsibilities of “members of a co-operative.” Illustrate using an example of an existing co-operative enterprise.
PC 2.3	Define the ‘purpose of a co-operative’
PC 2.4	Illustrate, using an example, the economic, social and psychological benefits to members of participating in a co-operative.
PC 2.5	Describe clearly what is meant by ‘governance’ and what distinguishes ‘co-operative governance’ from the governance of other companies.
PC 2.6	Explain clearly the roles and main responsibilities of members, the board of directors and management in a co-operative.
PC 2.7	Identify the key factors which influence how effectively a co-operative is governed, with reference to the members, the board of directors and management.

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		Marks
1	Give a definition of what is meant by 'members of a co-operative'	1
2	Using an existing co-operative you are familiar with, identify the members.	1
3	Members of a co-operative have rights and responsibilities; describe six of these.	6
4	Select an existing co-operative enterprise that you are familiar with and explain the member's rights and responsibilities.	3
5	Define the 'purpose of a co-operative'	2
6	<p>Select an existing co-operative enterprise that you are familiar with and describe the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • economic • social • psychological <p>benefits to members of participating in the co-operative.</p>	3
7	Describe clearly the meaning of the term 'governance'.	1
8	Distinguish 'co-operative governance' from the governance of other companies.	2
9	<p>Explain the role and at least three responsibilities of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • members • the Board of Directors • management <p>in a co-operative</p>	9
10	With reference to a co-operative, describe at least 3 factors which ensure that the members, the Board of Directors and the management work together effectively.	3
	Total	31

Instrument of Assessment 3

This assessment covers the following part of the unit specification

Co-operative Enterprise – The Democratic Alternative (SCQF level 5)	
Learning Outcome 3	Investigate the difference between co-operative, social and private enterprise. Evaluate the “co-operative advantage” to a community of being members of a co-operative.
PC 3.1	Identify an existing social enterprise. Outline the characteristics which clearly identify it as a social enterprise, including who benefits from it and what these benefits are.
PC 3.2	Identify two different types of private enterprise e.g. an SME (small or medium enterprise) and a PLC (public limited company). Compare these two companies clearly describing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • their common characteristics which identify them as private enterprises • their differences
PC 3.3	Compare the social enterprise identified above with one of the private enterprises identified above by commenting on their similarities and differences, which must include an explanation of “Triple Bottom Line.”
PC 3.4	Identify two existing co-operative enterprises e.g. a large retail co-operative and a community co-operative. Prepare a report on each of the two co-operative enterprises which clearly describes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the nature of the business • its purpose • its members • economic, social and psychological benefits to members.
PC 3.5	Compare the above two co-operative enterprises with the two companies examined in PC 3.3 commenting on similarities and differences.
PC 3.6	Demonstrate, with reference to the community co-operative above, how co-operation can be more effective than competition. Justify the use of the phrase ‘not just for profit’ to describe the co-operative.

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To achieve all Outcomes and Performance Criteria of this Unit candidates will require to have examined simple case studies of at least two co-operative enterprises, one social enterprise and two different types of private enterprises. These case studies may be used to illustrate Performance Criteria in all Learning Outcomes.

		Marks
1	Using an existing social enterprise that you are familiar with prepare a report outlining the characteristics which clearly identify it as a social enterprise, including who benefits from it and what these benefits are. Your report should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describe the nature of its business • state its social purpose • explain how it uses its profit • identifies its beneficiaries • explains how the beneficiaries benefit from the social enterprise. 	8
2	Select two different types of private enterprise that you are familiar with e.g. a sole trader, partnership, private limited company or public limited company and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describe the common characteristics • explain the differences in their ownership and management structure • explain how they distribute their profits. 	6
3	Describe the term 'Triple Bottom Line'.	1
4	Compare the social enterprise selected in question 1 with one of the private enterprises selected in question 2 and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clearly describe the similarities • explain the difference Your answer must show relevant evidence selected from given sources.	4
5	Identify two existing co-operative enterprises eg a large retail co-operative and a community co-operative. Prepare a report on each of the two co-operative enterprises and describe: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the nature of its business • its purpose • its members • economic, social and psychological benefits to members. 	10
6	Compare the two co-operative enterprises which you looked at in question 5 with the social and private enterprises which you looked at in question 4. Comment on the similarities and differences between the co-operative enterprises and the social and private enterprises.	3
7	Using the community co-operative selected above (in question 5), describe how the members co-operated. Explain why this was more beneficial to the members than competing.	4
9	Describe the term 'not for profit'.	1
10	A community co-operative is regarded as an example of a 'not for profit' organisation. Explain why this type of organisation is regarded as a 'not for profit' organisation.	1
	Total	38

