

Instrument of Assessment 3

Learning Outcome 4: Evaluate the extent to which the co-operative business model can help address a current issue such as Climate Change or the Financial Crisis.

You should already have planned, organised and carried out research into how the co-operative business model can help to address a current issue such as Climate Change or the Financial Crisis. You are now required to produce a report which evaluates the extent to which the co-operative business model can address your chosen current issue. It should include the following:

1. An introduction stating clearly what you have investigated.
2. A description of the operation of an existing co-operative enterprise relevant to your chosen issue, with reference to how they are putting the co-operative values and principles into practice.
3. An evaluation of the extent to which the existing co-operative is helping to address the issue and, with reference to the co-operative values and principles, why the co-operative business model is particularly suited to addressing this issue.
4. A description of relevant opportunities, which may exist now or in the future, to grow and strengthen the appropriate co-operative sector.
5. A conclusion which identifies how co-operatives in general might contribute to the 'solution' to the issue.

Marking Instructions

The grid below illustrates the allocation of marks and may be used to assess the candidates' performance against the criteria. In addition to marks for each section, there is 1 mark for demonstrating adequate knowledge of the issue throughout and 1 mark for demonstrating adequate knowledge of the co-operative business model throughout. Candidates must achieve 10 marks out of 20 (50%) to pass this assessment.

	Content	Marks available	Marks awarded	Section totals
1	Introduction			
	Introduction clearly identifying the issue and what has been investigated	2		
	Section total - 2			
2	Co-operative enterprise relevant to the issue			
	Name, sector, location and nature of the existing co-operative business.	2		
	Explanation of how the co-operative puts the co-operative values and principles into practice	2		
	Description makes clear the relevance of the existing co-operative to the issue chosen.	1		
	Section total - 5			
3	Evaluation			
	Explanation of how the existing co-operative is addressing the issue	2		
	Evaluation of the extent to which the co-operative is helping to address the issue.	1		
	Explanation, with reference to the values and principles, of why the co-operative business model is particularly suited to addressing this issue.	3		
	Section total - 6			
4	Opportunities to grow and strengthen the sector			
	Valid opportunity identified and explained.	2		
	Section total - 2			
5	Conclusion			
	Valid argument stating how co-operatives in general might contribute to the 'solution' to the issue.	2		
	Valid justification	1		
	Section total - 3			
	Adequate knowledge of the issue is demonstrated throughout	1		
	Adequate knowledge of the co-operative business model is demonstrated throughout.	1		
	Total marks	20		

