

The Archive Project seeks to identify extant records remaining from workers' co-operatives of the period along with records from federations and co-operative development organisations, to encourage those currently holding locally significant records to deposit them in local records offices and also to create a new workers' co-operative archive at the National Co-operative Archive in Manchester. Selected key resources will be digitised and a number of oral history interviews with key figures from that period will be undertaken. Finally the Project plans a tie-in series of exhibition panels, to be displayed at the Rochdale Pioneers Museum.

The project is now ready to apply to the Heritage Lottery Fund for substantive funding, to enable a project officer to be employed for eighteen months. The Co-operative Heritage Trust, which will coordinate the project, is offering to contribute about £10,000 in kind, and the remaining £10,000 to complete the £89,000 funding package is now being sought from within the workers' co-op, and the wider co-op, movement. An appeal for pledges (preferably in units of £500) was launched in late January 2016.

For more information please contact the Project's Advisory Team,
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