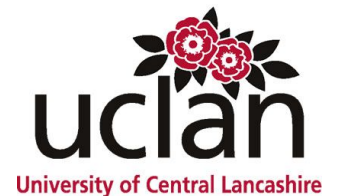


# **UCLan, Preston, the Mondragón Co-operatives and Community**

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# Community and Co-operatives

- 'Big Society'
- Democracy
- Identity
- Community consultation
- Loss of community and regeneration
- Public services and community
- Community values
- Micro-society
- Democracy
- Ownership
- Worker consultation
- Regeneration of community through wealth creation
- Services in co-operation
- Co-operative values

# The Mondragón experience

MONDRAGON is divided into four areas:

- Finance
- Industry
- Retail
- Knowledge

...which operate independently within the framework of an overall strategy, all in line with the strategic policies established at the Co-operative Congress.

# A working Mondragon Co-operative

- **General Assembly:** this is the supreme body in the co-operative and is the vehicle for expressing the social will of all members.
- **Governing Council:** the representative and governing body of the co-operative. Members are elected at the General Assembly.
- **Social Council:** a consultative body, which represents members as a whole internally within the co-operative.
- **Management Council:** this is the managerial and executive team that comprises the manager and managerial members, and is responsible for the executive management of the co-operative.

# Evergreen, Cleveland, Ohio

‘The Evergreen Cooperatives are an integrated network of for-profit, employee-owned, green businesses in Cleveland. Evergreen transforms lives and neighborhoods by building profitable and sustainable worker-owned businesses linked to the supply chains of the city’s anchor institutions and other locally based customers. We are working to revitalize core city neighborhoods through job and wealth creation for our employee-owners, while supplying our customers with highest quality, cost-competitive services.’

# 'Culture' and 'community'

Recent work with **Otalora**, the Co-operative management training centre of Mondragón, has highlighted the issue of 'co-operative culture'.

What is it? Where does it come from?  
Can you teach and learn it? How is it sustained? How important is it?

# Research in Preston, development and knowledge transfer

**If developing and promoting co-operatives in Preston, what are the areas in need of research?**

# Initial research aims

- An overview of co-operatives and if appropriate construct a typology of co-operative organisations and related co-operative activity in Preston.
- Identify: Where located? What aspirations? Needs? Co-operative friendly' city? Support? Council's role?
- Present preliminary recommendations, based on a qualitative needs analysis of existing co-operatives and related forms of activity.



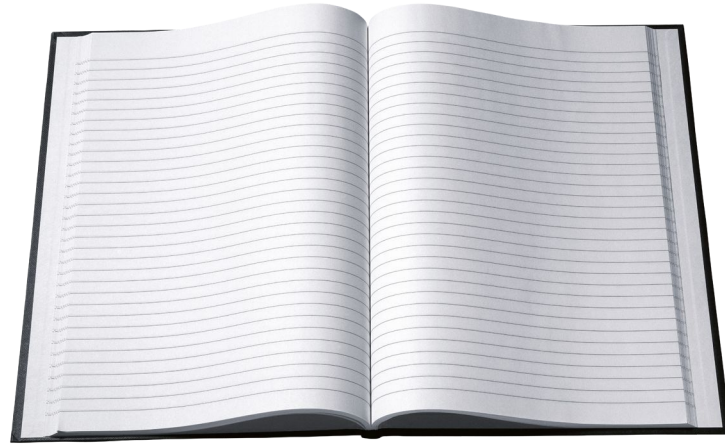
# Can you help?

- Contacts in the Preston area?
- Interviews?
- Opinions and ideas?



# Future collaborations?

...University... Mondragón University,  
Otalora...Preston...Co-operatives  
UK/NW...funding...



# Thank you for listening

