



Ownership / Management

We operate on a basic philosophy of equality and democracy. Over the years we have tried to use terms that are less hierarchical to describe what we do. However, it can be confusing for new, and indeed longer serving volunteers and staff. Here is a brief outline of the ownership and management structures of this Community Media Co-op, which we hope may help:

Committee of Management

This is the group of volunteers who manage the affairs of Near Media Co-op, and therefore the management of Near FM and Near TV productions. This group meets every month, sets policy and governance standards. The members of this Committee are elected at the Co-op's A.G.M. Only shareholding members of the Co-op can stand for election to the Committee of Management. This committee is the legal management body of the project.

The Co-ordination Committee

The Committee of Management meets after each AGM and elects a Chairperson, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. These office holders are designated the Co-ordination Committee and they meet monthly with other members of the Co-ordination committee to administer the day-to-day affairs of the society. They receive regular reports from the paid staff.

Staff

Each platform (e.g. Radio and TV) has a designated salaried Co-ordinator. We also have an Outreach, and Funding Co-ordinator. All of these positions are paid ones. Much of the support services provided for volunteers is by CE staff. The entire operation is supervised by a salaried Project Co-ordinator.

Shareholders

Anyone wishing to support the ideals of democratic ownership of media may apply to become a shareholder. Shares cost €5 for an individual and €25 for an organisation. Shareholders can attend and vote at the AGM. Each member has only one vote. Application for membership is open to anyone supporting the ethos of Near Media Co-op with particular emphasis of those living in or working in Northside Dublin.

Trustees

Charity trustees are the people who ultimately exercise control over, and are legally responsible for, the charity. Charity trustees have specific duties under the [Charities Act 2009](#) and must make sure that their charity complies with the requirements of other relevant legislation. Near Media Co-op is a registered charity (RCN 20205453). Each volunteer member of the Committee of Management are also Trustees.