

# DFC Membership Roles and Responsibilities

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This document lays out the roles and responsibilities of becoming a member of the DFC community benefit society (CBS). Membership differs from being an Ally. Members own and control the organisation, through electing a board and voting through motions at general meetings. In order to become a member, you buy a single share in the DFC CBS. Every year you have to renew your membership, and purchase another share, but you will only ever have one vote. Shares are non-withdrawable.

Membership is an active gesture of participation in the organisation, helping to guide it, hold it to account, and make sure it is meeting its aims in benefitting the UK independent documentary sector. It therefore does involve a bit of unpaid work and commitment.

## Decision-maker

- Members inform themselves about DFC business, elect the Board, and participate in decision-making.

## Contributor

- Economic participation by members through money, services, or member labour enables the DFC to function and remain sustainable for future members.

## Collective interest actor

- Members act in the collective interest of the organisation by following DFC policies and voicing concerns when policy is not equitable or serving the interests of current members.

## Advocate

- The voices of members are one of the greatest advantages that co-ops have when comparing themselves to other kinds of businesses. Members have a role in advocating that the DFC is a place they are excited to be involved in. Members also have a role in representing the DFC to other potential members and communities around them.

## Whole person

- The policies and mission of DFC are meant to support the needs of members and beneficiaries, but the reality can be messy. A member of DFC has a role to be clear about their needs and identity so the co-op can meet those needs, and be understanding about others' needs.

## Responsibilities

- To use the DFC's services
- Consider volunteering or working on a sub-committee
- Attending members meetings and making your voice count through voting
- Electing the board
- Giving £1 to the DFC in exchange for a share.

## Founder members

- The Founder Members have done all the above, as well as sign their names to bring the DFC into existence. They then elected an interim board. There are no extra responsibilities or role duties beyond those two steps.