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Limerick community grocery set for big move

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LIMERICK City's only co-operative shop is moving from its present location in Mulgrave Street.

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The Limerick Community Grocery, which opened in 2012, is moving from the former Esso garage to a new purpose-built facility, yet to be disclosed.

The grocery is unique in that, unlike many business, each member has an equal say in how it is run.

Bill Kelly, one of the founder members, says the move is necessary due to the growth of the business, which now has 500 members.

“We are completely cramped below. Our members are saying to us that they can only do basket shopping. But more and more of our members want to do a full week’s shopping. For this, we need trolley space, and to expand the range,” he explained.

The need for more space, he added, was evidenced when the grocery was invited to take part in the HSE’s Cook It programme, promoting nutritious food, but there was no room to carry out workshops in the station kiosk.

Three buildings have been shortlisted, Bill said, and he believes the new location will be finalised early next week.

“Then we can drive on with the Cook It programme, our full trolley programme, and realise a bigger vision.” The grocery is expected to open in its new site by next month.

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