

# Rhys Thornton

DevOps Engineer

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## Denise Hargreaves

The Co-operative Group

Dear Denise,

I'm writing about the DevOps Engineer position at the Co-op. I've spent the last two and a half years at Booking.com managing 1,400 containers across 3 EKS clusters handling 28 million API requests a day, and moving to a Manchester-based company with a genuine technology transformation underway is exactly the kind of challenge I'm after.

At Booking.com, I cut CI/CD pipeline times from 22 minutes down to 7, which took deployments from 3 per day to 12. I designed the blue-green deployment strategy that reduced production incidents during releases from 6 a month to 1, and I built a cost monitoring dashboard that found £180,000 a year in unused EC2 and RDS resources. All decommissioned within two months. Before that, at AO.com, I migrated 38 services from EC2 to Kubernetes, wrote Terraform modules for everything, and brought infrastructure-as-code coverage to 94%.

I hold a CKA, AWS Solutions Architect, and Terraform Associate certification, and I genuinely care about keeping infrastructure boring and predictable. The Co-op's scale. Retail, insurance, funeral care, all running on shared platforms. Is the kind of environment where good platform engineering makes a visible difference. I'd welcome a conversation about how I could contribute to the team.

Kind regards,

Rhys Thornton