

In brief

» The Co-operative has suffered a fall in like-for-like food sales amid “extremely fierce” competition, but made a pledge to increase its home grown fresh offer. The supermarket experienced a 2.5 per cent drop in same-store food sales but was bolstered by profits elsewhere in the business. Its Co-operative Farms business is to increase its percentage of Co-operative UK grown fresh food in stores from 6.5 per cent to 25 per cent by 2015. It reported profits rose to £545.7 million in 2010 – a 48 per cent rise in underlying profits.

