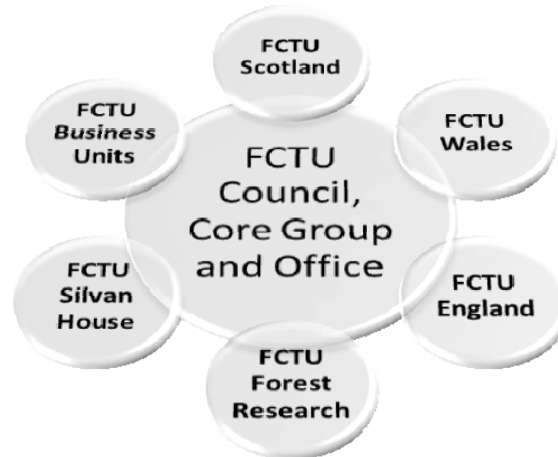




## NEW NAME FOR NATIONAL ORGANISING COMMITTEES (NOCs)



In 2006, Council agreed that it was an apt time to review the NOC function: to explore what additional support, if any, might be needed, and at the same time look at what could be done to strengthen the structure over all.

As part of the review, informal meetings were held with the Chairs and Secretaries from each NOC to look at any problems or issues pertinent to individual NOCs and to discuss and brainstorm them thoroughly. During the discussions, Chairs and Secretaries were asked to complete an analysis of what they deemed to be their Committee's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. Because of the differences associated with the work and geographical nature of the NOCs, it was to be expected that some issues would be NOC specific—some would also affect other NOCs.

One such issue raised was the very name 'NOC'. It was indicated that the name National Organising Committee (NOC) was unhelpful and restrictive in that it did not help members or managers connect the group to the rest of the FCTU joint unions. It wanted a name, which related more to the work of the unions and immediately be identifiable to everyone.

The proposal to change name of the NOCs was endorsed along with several other recommendations by Council at its February 2008 meeting. NOC members were asked to contact the FCTU office with suggestions for the new name and the request was again repeated during visits to the NOCs by the joint union's office—thank you to everyone who responded.

The acronym 'FCTU' has quickly become synonymous with the work of the joint unions, which is being built on through our communications strategy, for example in the name of our website. Therefore, the intention is to bring the name of the NOCs under the same label as FCTU Council and FCTU Office, at the same time change their generic term from Regional to **Area Committees**: thus, the 'England NOC' will become the '**FCTU England Committee**'.

The change of name will not only accentuate the cohesiveness and unity and that exists between areas, it will re-enforce the interaction between all of us, which takes place when dealing with issues.