



**MINUTES OF THE FORESTRY COMMISSION TRADE UNIONS'
BUSINESS UNITS AREA MEETING
Silvan House 22nd September 2009**

Present:	Alistair Gillies	Chair GMB
	Norrie Russell	Member UNITE
	Bruce Hamilton	Member PCS
	Paul Bullock	Member UNITE
Minute Secretary:	Andrew Stewart	PROSPECT
Apologies:	Lawrence Villa	Member UNITE
	Eric Williams	Member UNITE

1. Introduction AG welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting Agreed as true record

3. Matters Arising From Last Meeting

a. MES review.

AG and RL have issued a joint statement with Jeff Livingston after consulting with the FCTUBU to affected members within MES. The proposals will now proceed to the Executive Board for approval. AG stated that if the proposals were accepted discussions would have to take place over the affects to members. **(ONGOING)**

b. Climate Change Bill This ahs now been discharged from this area committee to the TUS departmental committee.

c. FCE Overtime Review BH and NR have informed us that final papers were still to be issued to the review group from Mr MacCulloch for approval, matters such as work life balance had been discussed within the review, although it was felt that the figures would have to be revisited since the announced changes in overtime rates. **(ONGOING)**

d. MES Overtime reductions update A statement was received from Jeff Livingston at the last FBUSC that there was NO policy on restricting overtime within MES.

4. Peebles/FCE head office review This review has caused much consternation to affected members, members stated that this was largely due to conflicting statements from senior management within FCE. It has also caused FCTU members a great deal of concern too, due to delays getting information from Business Units Management, and also in getting information concerning this review. The matter was discussed in detail and it was decided to mandate RL to seek clarification from the main FCTU departmental council at the next FCTUDC on the 25th September. It was also agreed that further clarification should be sought via the FCTUDC Chair Mr Beaney and from the main FC Business Units Staff Council on the 7th October. **(Action RL & AG)**

- 5. FBU Health & Safety Committee** A response to a letter from Mr A. Dickerson newly appointed Director of safety concerning the forming of an H & S Committee was discussed and a response drafted. **(Action BH & AS)**
- 6. Matters Arising from FBUSC** At the FBUSC on the 7th October it was decided to seek an update on the following as part of ongoing issues.
Items 4, 5, 8,10, 11, 13,and 14.
- 7. Any other business** The following were discussed
MES Wales review concerning sharing of Chirk (update)
H & S officers England & Wales why they were P/T posts
Land Training Apprenticeships
FCTUDC Strategic Issues paper
As there were issues pertaining to the above within the minutes of the last FBUSC it was decided to seek further information through the pertinent items.
(Detailed above)
- 8. Date of Next Meeting TBC**