

Future Union Organisation

As outlined in the Association's Annual Report, the ICTU Bi-annual delegate conference in July 2013 passed a motion which endorsed the report of the Trade Union Commission. The Report recommended greater integration of unions including greater co-operation in supplying services to members.

The civil service unions – AHCPs, CPSU, IMPACT, PSEU and VOA have met and are exploring the possibility of developing a new entity to provide a stronger voice for the collective members.

The Executive Committees of the five Unions met in June to discuss the profile/structures of the 5 Unions and membership benefit schemes.

In the meantime, as a follow up to a joint meeting of the five Union Executive Committees, a programme of 'Next Steps' has been agreed as follows :

- i) A joint committee to look at shared benefit schemes
- ii) A joint mentoring scheme for potential full-time officials
- iii) A joint committee to look at what joint value could be gained through pooled resources
- iv) Each union to assign an official to 'map' membership and common issues. Then, discussions to take place on possible shared responsibility e.g. designation of a lead negotiator on behalf of all unions on particular issues to avoid duplication
- v) A committee to look at unions' IT needs and other possible efficiencies
- vi) The development of an agreed paper on future collaborative steps and joint development
- vii) Executive Committee representatives from AHCPs, CPSU, VOA and PSEU to meet with groups in IMPACT representing equivalent levels in Health and Local Government. These meetings to discuss issues of common interest
- viii) Discussions to take place on possible shared 'call centre' for information calls
- ix) Series of joint meetings of Executive Committees to review progress.

The Association will report on a regular basis on how the talks are progressing.