

# Democratic Accountability



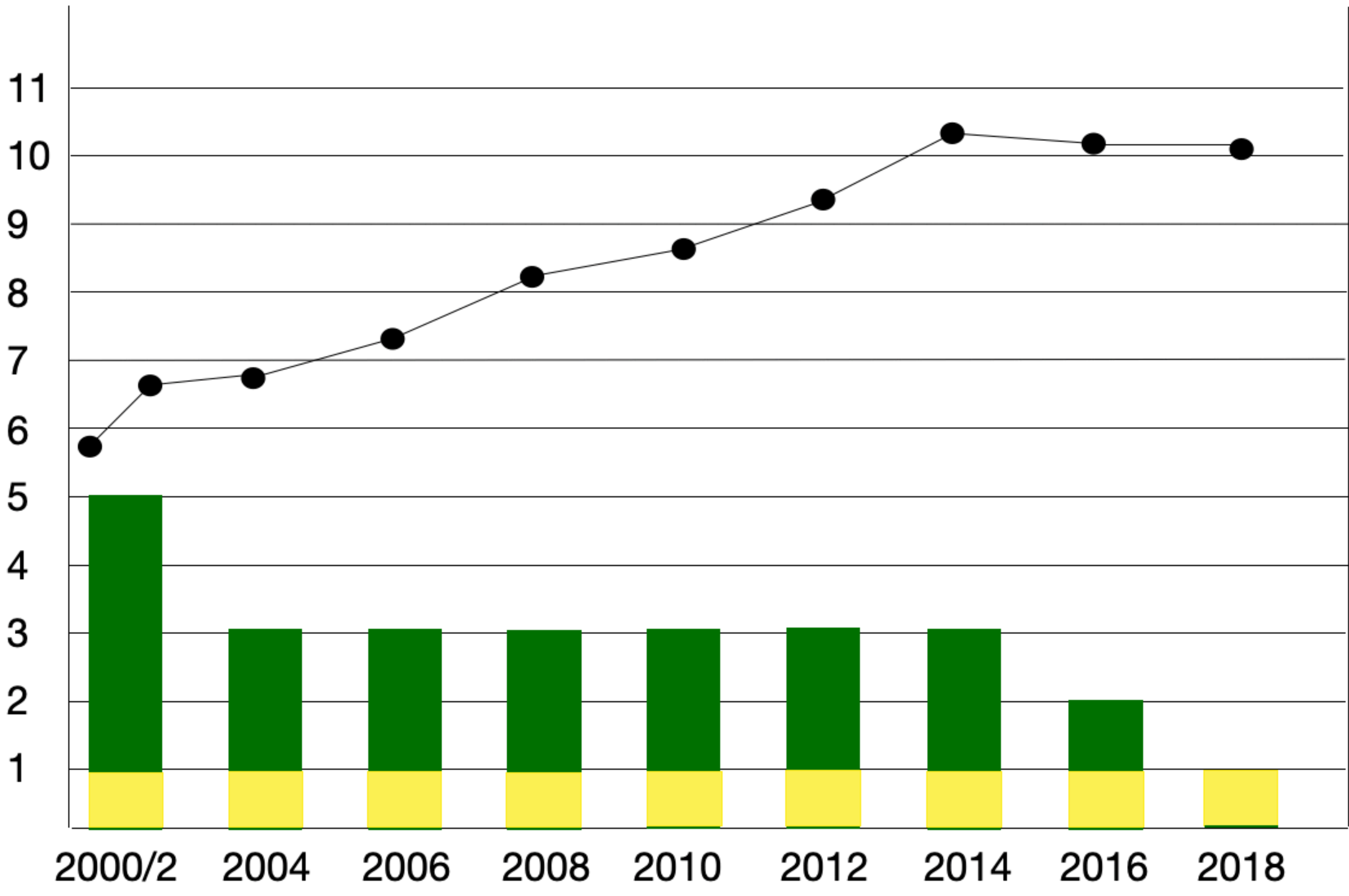
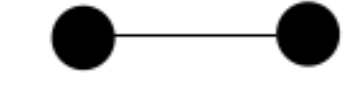
## **2nd Principle: Democratic Member Control FCA Co-operative Guidance**

Co-operatives are democratic organisations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Men and women serving as elected representatives are accountable to the membership.

How can the COM be held democratically accountable by the members when the COM have shut all Green Badge branches ?

Why are the COM shutting down Green Badge branches at a time of rising membership ?

PER 1000 MEMBERS



5  
4  
3  
2  
1  
0

LTDA MEMBER'S BRANCH

- Green Badge Branches
- Yellow/Suburban Badge Branches

**2003**

**2016**

**2018**

**2018**

**19/12/2003**

COM amend rule  
20d  
Reduces branches  
from 5 to 3

**June 2016**

COM unlawfully  
carry out vote to  
reduce Green  
Badge branches  
from 2 to 1

**16/05/2018**

COM unlawfully  
introduce bye-law  
banning Green Badge  
from Suburban Yellow  
Badge branch  
meetings.

**20/06/2018**

COM acting  
without proof  
close down Green  
Badge Branch

**June 2018**

**No Green Badge branches. No forum for debate.**

Members acting within democratic procedures agreed by them in exercise of their right to voluntary and free association are sovereign. Democratic control by members animates each and every co-operative.

Members should be engaged in proposing and approving key strategic policy decisions and regularly, in general assembly, holding elected representatives on boards or committees and senior executives to account.

Lively challenging debate should be seen as a sign of a healthy democracy that needs to be reflected in the more formal parts of a co-operative's democratic structure, in particular encouraging members to become active members of their co-operative and to put themselves forward as candidates in elections.

