

Constitution of the LOCAL NETWORK Contents

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Preamble

The Local Network exists to promote participatory democracy. It seeks to empower communities to have more say over the decisions made in parliaments on their behalf.

In an era of growing inequality, shrinking resources and climate chaos, we need new political structures that prioritise community solutions over the interests of career politicians.

The heart and the power of the Local Network lies in its local group structures and practices that use the wisdom of all in the community to find solutions.

Traditional party politics is getting further from the people it is meant to represent and it is not addressing many of the biggest issues. The 21 st century must be about collaboration and sharing, not competition and domination.

We hope the Local Network will be a catalyst for broader systemic political change, whether through growing our network, changing existing ones, or both.

1. Name and registered office of the party

- **1.1** Name: The name of the Network is the Local Network which name shall be adopted by any branches in any of the states and territories of Australia.
- 1.2 Abbreviation: LN
- **1.3 Establishment:** The Network was established for political purposes under the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918. The name of The Local Party was changed to the Local Network in March 2023. It was subsequently incorporated July, 2023.
- **1.4** The registered office of the Network shall be at 680 Huon Rd, Fern Tree, Tasmania 7054,or such other place as the Management Committee may from time to time determine.
- 1.5 Logo:



2. Objectives of the Local Network

- **2.1** To seek election or appointment to public office of candidates endorsed by the Network in local, state or territory and commonwealth parliaments.
- **2.2** To promote candidates endorsed by the Network for election to the House of Assembly or the Legislative Council of the Parliament of Tasmania.
- **2.3** To maintain registration under the Australian Electoral Commission as an eligible political party under the Commonwealth Electoral Act.
- **2.4** To maintain registration by the Electoral Commissioner of Tasmania as a political party under the Tasmanian Electoral Act.
- **2.5** To seek the election or appointment to public office of people who are committed to the objectives and principles of this constitution.
- **2.6** To further the principles and values of the party outlined in Section 3 of this constitution.
- **2.7** To progress new collaborative ways to navigate the environmental, social and economic crisis that Australia and the world is facing.
- 2.8 To promote parliamentarian responsibility by enabling each elected member to vote according to the needs of their own electorate and their own conscience. This position assumes adherence to Local Network Principles ie. a commitment to action on reconciliation, climate action & corruption with solutions bases that are unifying rather than adversarial or divisive.
- **2.9** To encourage broader and deeper community ownership of policies, decisions and legislation that affect the people of Tasmania and Australia.
- If so resolved by the Management Committee or by an ordinary resolution at a General Meeting:
- a) to promote candidates endorsed by the Network to the House of Representatives of the Parliament of the Commonwealth or the Australian Senate for states and territories other than Tasmania.
- b) to promote candidates endorsed by the Network for election to parliamentary houses in states and territories other than Tasmania.
- c) to become registered, and maintain registration, as a political party under the applicable laws of states and territories other than Tasmania.
- d) to represent the people of states and territories other than Tasmania through the parliamentary system at a national, state and territory level.
- e) to identify, raise awareness of, focus on and represent at a national, state and territory level, the interests of persons domiciled in states and territories other than Tasmania in relation to issues that affect those states and territories.

3. Principles

- **3.1** The Local Network's principles are based on the following values which underlie all sustainable communities:
- (a) Courage
- (b) Action
- (c) Kindness
- (d) Empathy
- (e) Respect
- **3.2** The Network recognises the Aboriginal people of Lutruwita (Tasmania) as the original custodians and acknowledges that sovereignty of the island (Tasmania) and Australia was never ceded.
- 3.3 The Network acknowledges that Australia and humanity are facing the existential threat of climate change and that we have already entered an age of great disruption to our physical safety and social norms.
- **3.4** In order to respond to these new threats of our own making, Australia needs a new political system that:
- (f) is solutions-based and unifying rather than adversarial and divisive an approach that relies on genuine dialogue with community members
- (g)involves as broad a cross section of knowledge and experience as possible in decision making
- (h) bases well-informed decisions on the best available science and on validated stakeholder consultation process
- (i) recognises that the current party-political structures have facilitated the problems we now face and are inadequate to fix these problems
- (j) tackles challenges and pursues solutions using systems thinking. This means looking at the interconnected nature of elements in any system (such as social welfare, health systems, and economic systems) and identifying how and where to best influence change, rather than approaching the challenge from the current technical and political perspectives
- (k) works to continuously improve and expand the capacity and mindsets of all our elected representatives so we can collectively act with more understanding, more systems thinking, and thus evolve better solutions
- (I) continuously evolves, just as our society itself does
- (m) recognises that we are overshooting our ecological boundaries
- (n) works directly with communities to reach equitable decisions on how best to utilise our common resources.

3.5 Definitions

"Committee" is the Management Committee of the Local Network.

- "Voting Member" is a member who has signed up to the network and been accepted as a member by the Management Committee.
- "Citizen Jury" is a meeting of community members on an issue of interest to the community. The Jury will be constituted of not less than 12 people. People sitting on the Citizen Jury will be randomly selected from the community. Persons already engaged publicly on the issue being deliberated upon will automatically be excluded from sitting on the Jury. A written report of the Jury will then guide and underpin the policy of the Network on that issue.
- "Local Branches" are open to members only and mirror the geographical boundaries of the federal electorate.
- "Network" refers to 'Local Network'.
- "Voting Member" is a member who has signed up to the Network and been accepted as a member by the Management Committee.
- "Local Network Issues Groups" are formed around issues rather than geographical boundaries and are open to members and non-members
- "Local Network Branches" are open to members only and mirror the geographical boundaries of federal electorates.

4. Membership

- **4.1** Membership is available to any individual so long as they are:
- (a) joining as a member in their own right and not as a representative of another organisation or group
- (b) not a member of another political party
- (c) aligned to the objectives, values and principles of the Local Network
- (d) an Australian citizen, or an Australian resident, who is registered to vote.
- (e) any other criteria that prevents membership.
- **4.2 Voting Rights**: Membership of the party shall entitle members to vote on the business of the party as determined by the committee.
- **4.3 Cessation of Membership:** A person shall cease to be a member when:

their written or verbal resignation is received by the Management Committee, Membership Fees:

Currently, in 2023 no membership fees are required. After consultation with members and examination of financial records, the Management Committee may request members pay a membership fee. Due notice will be given of a vote at the annual general meeting.

The Management Committee will determine how any revenue from membership fees is to be allocated

Discretion to accept or reject a membership application: The Management Committee may accept or reject an application for Network membership at its sole and absolute discretion, whether or not the applicant has complied with the requirements in clause 4.1.

[&]quot;Network" refers to Local Network.

- **4.4 Expulsion from the Party**: The Management Committee may respond to breaches of the Constitution and, if required, expel a member from the Network if, in the opinion of the entire Management Committee, the member has undertaken activities, or made statements, that are not consistent with the objectives, values or principles of the Network.
- **4.5 Discrimination**: No member will be discriminated against due to gender, age, race, ethnicity, class, religion, disability, sexuality or marital status.
- **4.6 Conflict Resolution**: A sub-committee of one member of the committee plus one ordinary member will be set up to manage areas of conflict. Those involved in the conflict can nominate one person each for the conflict resolution sub-committee.
- **4.7 Automatic membership of national organisation** Membership of any state branch automatically makes you a member of the national organisation.

5. Management Committee

- **5.1 Composition**: The Management Committee must comprise at least four people, each of whom must be a Voting Member.
- **5.2 Office Positions**: The Management Committee will have and include the following positions or offices:
- 5.2.1 Registered Officer
- 5.2.2 Deputy Registered Officer
 - 5.2.3 Party Secretary
 - 5.2.4 Treasurer
- **5.3 Founding Management Committee**: The Founding Management Committee will consist of:
 - 5.3.1 Registered Officer Helen Middleton
 - 5.3.2 Deputy Registered Officer Andrew Shondfeldt
 - 5.3.3 Party Secretary Leanne Minshull
 - 5.3.4 Treasurer Marly Flynn
- **5.4 Term of the Committee**: At each annual conference of the Network (see 7.4.1), an election will be held to appoint:
- a) a Registered Officer (who shall also be the Public Officer)
- b) a Deputy Registered Officer
- c) a Party Secretary
- d) a Treasurer.
- **5.5 Spill of the Committee**: The Management Committee can be dissolved by 50% of the membership calling in writing for a spill of the Committee. If a spill takes place:
- a) all members will be informed of the spill via email, or by phone if an email is not available
- b) a call for public officers will occur for a period of not less than 28 days
- c) a ballot of all voting members of the party will be undertaken
- d) new Management Committee members will be elected via a simple majority
- e) existing registered officers will remain in the positions until the end of the election period and the commencement of new offices.

5.6 Casual Vacancies: Should a member of the management committee resign, all voting members will be made aware of the vacancy and a period of two weeks will be allowed for eligible candidates to put themselves forward. The remaining management committee members will appoint the new management committee member via consensus. The appointment will then be ratified or overturned at the next AGM.

5.7 Duties of the Management Committee's Office Holders:

- **5.7.1** The Registered Officer and Deputy Registered Officer will be entrusted to carry out the duties required of them by the various Acts that govern the regulation of political parties.
- **5.7.2** The Registered Officer/delegated Public Relations Officer is responsible for making public statements (including press releases and other formal and informal statements to the media) on behalf of the Network.
- **5.7.3** The Secretary holds the responsibility for the carrying out of the Networks administration and for the conduct of its correspondence.
- **5.7.4** Management Committee must call for nominations for Officers of the Management Committee at least 20 days prior to the annual AGM.
- **5.7.5** Nominations for Management Committee positions will be open to all eligible voting members and must be provided in writing at least seven days prior to the state AGM and must specify which role is being sought.

6. Public statements

- **6.1** Public statements made for or on behalf of the Network will only be made by:
- a) members of the Management Committee
- b) endorsed candidates seeking election at an upcoming state election
- c) spokesperson(s) for the Network appointed in writing by the Registered Officer

7. Structure of the Party

7.1 Collaboration

- a) Local Network Issues Groups of members and non-members shall meet in person and on-line to create actionable plans to help achieve the objectives of the Party.
- b) All Network office bearers, employees, elected representatives and endorsed candidates will undertake meaningful reconciliation dialogue with members of the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community annually.

8. Liability of Members

- 8.1 Any right, privilege or obligation of a person as a member of the Network –
- (a) is not capable of being transferred to another person; and
- (b) terminates when the person ceases to be a member of the Network.
- **8.2** If the Network is wound up, each person who was, immediately before the Network is wound up, a member of the Network, and each person who was a member of the Network within the period of 12 months immediately preceding the commencement of the winding-up, is liable to contribute –
- (a) to the assets of the Network for payment of the liabilities of the Network; and
- (b) for the costs, charges and expenses of the winding-up; and
- (c) for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves.
- **8.3** Any liability under subrule (8.2) is not to exceed \$50
- **8.4** Despite subrule (8.2), a former member of the Network is not liable to contribute under that subrule, in respect of any liability of the Network incurred after he or she ceased to be a member.

9. Income and property of the Network

- **9.1** The income and property of the Local Network is to be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects and purposes of the Network.
- **9.2** No portion of the income or property of the Network is to be paid or transferred to any member of the Network unless the payment or transfer is made in accordance with this rule.
- 9.3 The Local Network may -
- (a) pay a person or member of the Network
 - (i) remuneration in return for services rendered to the Network, or for goods supplied to the Network, in the ordinary course of business of the person or member; or
 - (ii) remuneration that constitutes a reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the person or member for any of the objects or purposes of the Network; or
- **9.4** Despite subrule (3)(a), the Network is not to pay a person any amount under that subrule unless the management committee has first approved that payment.
- **9.5** Despite subrule (3)(d), the Network is not to appoint or nominate a member of the Network under that sub rule to an office in respect of which remuneration is payable unless the management committee has first approved –
- (a) that appointment or nomination; and
- (b) the receipt of that remuneration by that member.

10. Accounts of receipts and expenditure

- **10.1** True accounts are to be kept of the following:
- (a) each receipt or payment of money by the Network and the matter in respect of which the money was received or paid;
- (b) each asset or liability of the Network.
- 10.2 The accounts are to be open to inspection by the members of the Network at any reasonable time, and in any reasonable manner, determined by the management committee.
- **10.3** The treasurer of the Local Network is to keep all accounting books, and general records and records of receipts and payments, connected with the business of the Network in the form and manner the committee determines.
- **10.4** The accounts, books and records are to be kept at the Network's office or at any other place the committee determines.

11. Banking and finance

- **11.1** On behalf of the Local Network, the treasurer or a nominated Committee Member of the Network is to -
- (a) receive any money paid to the Network; and
- (b) immediately after receiving the money, issue an official receipt in respect of the money; and
- (c) cause the money to be paid into the account for donations opened under subrule (11.2) as soon as practicable after it is received.
- **11.2** The Committee is to open with an authorised deposit-taking institution an account in the name of the Network.
- **11.3** The Committee may –
- (a) receive from an authorised deposit-taking institution *a* 'payment' by the Network on any of the Local Network's accounts with the authorised deposit-taking institution; and
- (b) release or indemnify the authorised deposit-taking institution from or against any claim, or action or other proceeding, arising directly or indirectly out of the *drawing of that cheque.payment of those funds*
- **11.4** Except with the authority of the committee, a payment of an amount exceeding \$50 is not to be made from the funds of the Network other than –
- (a) the transfer of funds drawn on the Network's account; or
- (b) by the electronic transfer of funds from the Network's account to another account at an authorised deposit-taking institution.
- **11.5** The Committee may provide the treasurer of the Network with an amount of money to meet urgent expenditure, subject to any conditions the committee may impose in relation to the expenditure.

- **11.6** A transfer is not to me drawn on the Network's account, to another account at an authorised deposit-taking institution, except for the purpose of making a payment that has been authorised by the Committee.
- **11.7** A cheque, draft, bill of exchange, promissory note or other negotiable instrument is to be –
- (a) signed by the treasurer of the Network or, in the treasurer's absence, by any other member, or members, of the committee the committee nominates for that purpose; and
- (b) countersigned by the public officer.
- **11.8** An electronic transfer of an amount from the Network's account to another account at an authorised deposit-taking institution –
- (a) may only be authorised by the treasurer of the Network or, in the treasurer's absence, by any other member, or members, of the Committee the Committee nominates for that purpose; and
- (b) may only be authorised by a person referred to in paragraph (a) if the authorisation has been approved by the public officer.

12. Auditor

- **12.1** At each annual general meeting, the members of the Network present at the meeting are to appoint a person as the auditor of the Network.
- 12.2 If an auditor is not appointed at an annual general meeting under subrule (1), the Committee is to appoint a person as the auditor of the Network as soon as practicable after that annual general meeting.
- **12.3** The auditor is to hold office until the next annual general meeting and is eligible for re-appointment.
- **12.4** The first auditor –
- (a) may be appointed by the committee before the first annual general meeting; and
- (b) if so appointed, holds office until the end of the first annual general meeting unless earlier removed by a resolution of the members of the Network at a general meeting.
- **12.5** If the first auditor is appointed by the committee under subrule (4)(a) and subsequently removed at a general meeting under subrule (4)(b), the members of the Network, at that general meeting, may appoint an auditor to hold office until the end of the first annual general meeting.
- **12.6** Except as provided in subrule (4)(b), the auditor may only be removed from office by special resolution.
- **12.7** If a casual vacancy occurs in the office of auditor, the committee is to appoint a person to fill the vacancy until the end of the next annual general meeting.

13. Audit of accounts

- **13.1** The auditor is to audit the financial affairs of the Network at least once in each financial year of the Network.
- **13.2** The auditor, after auditing the financial affairs of the Network for a particular financial year of the Network, is to –
- (a) certify as to the correctness of the accounts of the Network; and
- (b) at the next annual general meeting, provide a written report to the members of the Network who are present at that meeting.
- **13.3** In the report and in certifying to the accounts, the auditor is to –
- (a) specify the information, if any, that he or she has required under and obtained; and
- (b) state whether, in his or her opinion, the accounts exhibit a true and correct view of the financial position of the Network according to the information at his or her disposal; and
- (c) state whether the rules relating to the administration of the funds of the Network have been observed.
- **13.4** The public officer is to deliver to the auditor a list of all the accounting records, books and accounts of the Network.
- **13.5** The auditor may –
- (a) have access to the accounting records, books and accounts of the Network; and
- (b) require from any employee of, or person who has acted on behalf of, the Network any information the auditor considers necessary for the performance of his or her duties; and
- (c) employ any person to assist in auditing the financial affairs of the Network; and
- (d) examine any member of the committee, or any employee of, or person who has acted on behalf of, the Network in relation to the accounting records, books and accounts of the Network.

14. Exemptions under the Act

- **14.1** For any financial year that the Network is exempt from the requirement to be audited by virtue of section24 (1b) or (1c) of the Act-
- (a) an auditor is not required to be appointed for that financial year under rule 10 unless the Network elects to have the financial affairs of the Network for that financial year audited in accordance with the Act and these rules; and
- (b) if an auditor is not appointed for a financial year by virtue of paragraph (a) —
- (i) rules 10 and 11 do not apply in respect of the Network for that financial year; and
- (ii) rule 13(5)(b), to the extent that it relates to an auditor, does not apply in respect of the annual general meeting held by the Network in respect of that financial year; and
- (iii) rule 13(5)(d) does not apply in respect of the annual general meeting held by the Network in respect of that financial year.

- 14.2 For any financial year that the Network is exempt from the requirement to provide an annual return by virtue of section 24(1B) of the Act, the Committee must provide, as part of the ordinary business of the annual general meeting for that financial year, a copy of the annual financial report given under the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 of the Commonwealth in respect of that financial year.
- **15.** Resolutions and changes to the Local Network constitution must be advertised to the entire membership at least 21 days before a vote is taken. The vote must be 75% in favour of those voting for the resolution, or change, to pass.

16. Annual general meeting

- **16.1** The Network is to hold an annual general meeting each year.
- **16.2** An annual general meeting is to be held on any day (being not later than 3 months after the end of the financial year of the Network) the committee determines.
- **16.3** An annual general meeting is to be in addition to any other general meeting that may be held in the same year.
- **16.4** The notice convening an annual general meeting is to specify the purpose of the meeting.
- **16.5** The ordinary business of an annual general meeting is to be as follows:
- (a) to confirm the minutes of the last preceding annual general meeting and of any general meeting held since that meeting;
- (b) to receive from the committee, auditor, employees and other persons acting on behalf of the Network reports on the transactions of the Network during the last preceding financial year of the Network;
- (c) to elect the officers of the Network and the ordinary committee members;
- (d) to appoint the auditor and determine his or her remuneration;
- (e) to determine the remuneration of employees and other persons acting on behalf of the Network.
- **16.6** An annual general meeting may transact business of which notice is given in accordance with rule 15.
- **16.7** Minutes of proceedings of an annual general meeting are to be kept, in the minute book of the Network, by the public officer or, in the absence from the meeting of the public officer, by an officer of the Network who is nominated by the chairperson of the meeting.

17. Special general meetings

17.1 The Committee may convene a Special General Meeting of the Network at any time.

- 17.2 The Committee, on the requisition in writing of at least 10 members of the Network, is required to convene a Special General Meeting of the Network.
- 17.3 A requisition for a Special General Meeting –
- (a) is to state the objects of the meeting; and
- (b) is to be signed by each of the requisitionists; and
- (c) is to be deposited at the office of the Network; and emailed to the Registered Officer of the Network.
- (d) may consist of several documents, each signed by one or more of the requisitionists.
- 17.4 If the committee does not cause a Special General Meeting to be held within 21 days after the day on which a requisition has been emailed to the Registered Officer, then a letter should be deposited at the office of the Network. Any one or more of the requisitionists may convene the meeting within 3 months after the day on which the requisition has been emailed to the Registered Officer.
- 17.5 A Special General Meeting convened by requisitionists is to be convened in the same manner, as nearly as practicable, as the manner in which a Special General Meeting would be convened by the Committee.
- **17.6** All reasonable expenses incurred by requisitionists in convening a Special General Meeting are to be refunded by the Network.

18. General Meetings

- **18.1** At least 14 days before the day on which a General Meeting of the Network is to be held, the public officer is to email each member a notice specifying –
- (a) the place, day and time at which the meeting is to be held; and
- (b) the nature of the business that is to be transacted at the meeting.
- **18.2.** Business and quorum at General Meetings All business transacted at a General Meeting, other than the ordinary business of an Annual General Meeting, is special business.
- **18.3** Business is not to be transacted at a General Meeting unless a quorum of members of the Network, entitled to vote, are present at the time when the meeting considers that business. A quorum for the transaction of the business of a General Meeting is 5 members of the Network entitled to vote.
- **18.4** At a General Meeting if a quorum is not present within one hour after the time appointed for the commencement of the meeting, the meeting is dissolved.
- **18.5** The Chairperson at General Meetings is to be an elected member of the Network.
- 18.6 The Chairperson of a general meeting at which a quorum is not present may adjourn the meeting with the consent of the members of the Network who are present and entitled to vote at the meeting, but no business is to be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than the business left unfinished at the meeting at which the adjournment took place.

19. Disclosure of interests

- 19.1 If a member of the committee or a member of a subcommittee has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in a matter being considered, or about to be considered, by the committee or subcommittee at a meeting, the member is to, as soon as practicable after the relevant facts come to the member's knowledge, disclose the nature of the interest to the committee.
- 19.2 If at a meeting of the committee or a subcommittee a member of the committee or subcommittee votes in respect of any matter in which the member has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest, that vote is not to be counted.

20. Expulsion of members

- **20.1** The committee may expel a member from the Network if, in the opinion of the committee, the member is guilty of conduct detrimental to the interests of the Network.
- **20.2** The retraction of Local Network support of an endorsed candidate may be advertised publicly though will not alter the Endorsement status with the AEC.
- **20.3** The expulsion of a member under subrule (1) or retraction of Local Network support for an endorsed candidate does not take effect until whichever of the following occurs later:
- (a) the fourteenth day after the day on which a notice is served on the member.
- (b) if the member exercises his or her right of appeal under this rule, the conclusion of the Special General Meeting convened to hear the appeal.
- 20.4 If the committee expels a member from the Network, the public officer, without undue delay, is to cause to be served on the member a notice in writing —
- (a) stating that the committee has expelled the member or has retracted Local Network support of an endorsed candidate. and
- (b) specifying the grounds for the expulsion; and
- (c) informing the member of the right to appeal against the expulsion or withdrawal of support under rule 35.

21. Appeal against expulsion

- **21.1** A member may appeal against an expulsion or withdrawal of support under 20.1, by serving on the public officer, within 14 days after the service of a notice of a requisition in writing demanding the convening of a Special General Meeting for the purpose of hearing the appeal.
- **21.2** On receipt of a requisition, the public officer is to immediately notify the Committee of the receipt.

- **21.3** The Committee is to cause a Special General Meeting to be held within 21 days after the day on which the requisition is received.
- **21.4** The Committee will appoint an external person to convene a panel made up of one ordinary member and one management committee member to hear the appeal.
- **21.5** At a Special General Meeting convened for the purpose of hearing an appeal under this rule –
- (a) no business other than the question of the expulsion is to be transacted; and
- (b) the committee may place before the meeting details of the grounds of the expulsion or withdrawal of support and the committee's reasons.
- (c) the member involved must be given an opportunity to be heard; and
- (d) the members of the Network who are present are to vote by secret ballot on the question of whether the expulsion should be lifted or confirmed.
- 21.6 If at the Special General Meeting a majority of the members present vote in favour of the lifting of the expulsion or the reinstatement of support:
- (a) the expulsion is lifted; and support reinstated
- (b) the expelled member is entitled to continue as a member of the Network.
- **21.7** If at the Special General Meeting a majority of the members present vote in favour of the confirmation of the expulsion –
- (a) the expulsion takes effect; and the expelled member ceases to be a member of the Network or
- (b) the support of the LN is withdrawn and may be publicised.

22. Disputes

- 22.1 A dispute between a member of the Network, in their capacity as a member, and the Network is to be determined by arbitration in accordance with the provisions of the Commercial Arbitration Act 2011 and will be dealt with through mediation.
- 22.2 This rule does not affect the operation of rule 35

23. Candidates

- **23.1** Timing for the selection and approval of candidates for public office shall be determined by the Management Committee and spokespeople of Local Issues Groups.
- **23.2** Candidates must be a resident of the electorate in which they are seeking pre-selection.
- **23.3** Candidates shall be pre-selected by a public vote in the electorate in which the candidates are putting themselves forward.
- 23.4 Notice of calls for pre-selection as a potential candidate shall be distributed

via email, by the Management Committee, to all members no less than **28 days** before a ballot of the membership opens.

- **23.5** If no candidates have been pre-selected at the time an election is called by the government, pre-selection can take place within 3 days of the election being called.
- **23.6** All candidates for pre-selection will be free to communicate why they are putting themselves forward to other members so long as:
 - a) alternative candidates are not attacked or slandered
 - b) alternative candidates are not named or quoted in the communication
 - c) no more than \$100 is spent on the means of delivering their communications.

24. Government transparency

The Local Network is committed to greater accountability of government at all levels. In particular, the Local Network seeks:

- **24.1** The establishment of expenditure caps for all state and federal elections. Until this is achieved, the Local Party will:
 - a) only accept donations from individuals and businesses aligned with the objectives of the Network
 - b) disclose all donations over \$500 within 14-days of the donation being received outside of an election period.
- c) disclose all donations over \$500 within a 24-hour period once writs for an election have been submitted.
- d) refuse any donations over \$500 seven days prior to the holding of an election.
- e) will require endorsed candidates to follow the same guidelines
- f) will require all endorsed candidates to report their receipts and expenditures to the Local Network Management Committee on a regular basis as determined by the Committee.
- **24.2** The establishment of a well-resourced Federal Independent Commission against Corruption with broad ranging powers and the strengthening of state anti-corruption bodies where required.
- **24.3** The establishment of faster and broader freedom of information systems at a state and federal level.

Ends