

Liberal Party of Australia

FEDERAL CONSTITUTION



As adopted by the Federal Council of the Liberal Party of Australia, October 1974
(Amended 1975, 1976, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1985, 1986, 1990, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1996, 1998, 1999, 2009)



Part I - Name

1. The name of the Organisation shall be THE LIBERAL PARTY OF AUSTRALIA, which name shall be adopted by the Divisions in the States and the Australian Capital Territory.

Part II - Objectives

2. The objectives of the Organisation shall be to have an Australian nation:-
 - (a) dedicated to political liberty and the freedom and dignity of man;
 - (b) safe from external aggression and living in the closest communion with fellow members of the Commonwealth, playing its part in a world security order which maintains the necessary force to defend peace;
 - (c) in which national defence is a matter of universal duty, and in which the spirit of patriotism is fostered and all Australians united in the common service of their country;
 - (d) in which an intelligent, free and liberal Australian democracy shall be maintained by:-
 - i) a Parliament controlling the Executive and the Law controlling all;
 - ii) independence of the Judiciary;
 - iii) freedom of speech, religion and association;
 - iv) freedom of citizens to choose their own way of living and of life, subject to the rights of others;
 - v) protecting the people against exploitation;
 - vi) looking primarily to the encouragement of individual initiative and enterprise as the dynamic force of progress;
 - vii) developing to the fullest extent a national spirit in Australia;
 - (e) in which men and women who have been members of the fighting services and their dependants shall enjoy honour and security and where preference and generous repatriation benefits are recognised;
 - (f) in which primary, secondary and tertiary industries are promoted, new and adequate markets developed, the lot of country people improved, rural amenities increased, and decentralisation of industries encouraged;
 - (g) in which there shall be no nationalisation of any Australian industry without the approval of the people;
 - (h) in which constant employment at good wages is available to all willing and able to work;
 - (i) in which employer and employee have a sense of common interest and duty, and share as co-operators in all advances of prosperity, and in which living standards rise steadily as physical resources expand and ingenuity grows;

- (j) in which social provision is made for the aged, the invalid, the widowed, the sick, the unemployed and their children;
- (k) in which adequate medical services are within the reach of all;
- (l) in which a comprehensive system of child and adult education is designed to develop the spirit of true citizenship, and in which no consideration of wealth or privilege shall be a determining factor;
- (m) in which the youth of the nation is given every encouragement to develop its talent to the full, recognising that from its ranks will come the leaders of tomorrow;
- (n) in which family life is seen as fundamental to the well-being of society, and in which every family is enabled to live in and preferably to own a comfortable home at reasonable cost, and with adequate community amenities.

Part III - Powers

3. The Organisation shall have the following powers:-
 - (a) to establish in any place within Australia branches of the Organisation, and Divisions in the States and the Australian Capital Territory;
 - (b) to provide, maintain and manage and carry on Headquarters, Clubs, Social Centres and places of meeting or recreation or instruction within Australia as may be required, and to furnish, equip and provide supplies therefore;
 - (c) to purchase, take on, lease or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire any real and personal estate which may be deemed necessary or convenient for any of the purposes of the Organisation;
 - (d) to construct, maintain and alter any houses, building or works necessary or convenient for the purposes of the Organisation;
 - (e) to take such steps by personal or written appeals, public meetings or otherwise, as may from time to time be deemed expedient for the purposes of procuring contributions to the funds of the Organisation in the shape of donations, annual subscriptions or otherwise;
 - (f) to invest any moneys of the Organisation not immediately required for any of its objects, in such a manner as may from time to time be determined;
 - (g) to enter into any arrangement for amalgamation, joint working or co-operation with any Party, association, society or body of persons whether incorporated or not carrying on work or having objects similar to the work and objects of the Organisation and to assist and support by pecuniary contributions or otherwise the operations of any such Party, association, society or body, and to take over upon any terms all or any of the property, undertakings and liabilities of any such Party, association, society or body;

- (h) to produce and publish and to distribute gratuitously or otherwise such books, newspapers, pamphlets, periodicals and other literature as may seem calculated to promote the objects of the Organisation;
 - (i) to receive and accept donations, subscriptions and endowments or money or of any form of property;
 - (j) *(Clause 3(j) amended by Resolution of the 1996 Federal Council)*
 - (i) to borrow money with or without security for the purpose of carrying out any of the objects or exercising any of the powers of the organisation;
 - (ii) to draw, make, accept, indorse and discount bills of exchange and similar instruments for the purpose of or in conjunction with the exercise of the powers of the Organisation under paragraph (j)(i) of this clause;
 - (k) to improve, manage, develop, sell, exchange, lease, mortgage or otherwise deal with or turn to account (but subject to any such consent or approval as may by law be required) all or any of the property of the Organisation;
 - (l) to engage and dismiss all paid officers and servants of the Organisation and fix their remuneration and terms of employment;
 - (m) to grant and pay such pensions, salaries, gratuities or other sums in recognition of service to any person as may from time to time be approved by the Federal Executive or the Executive of a Division of the Organisation;
 - (n) to appoint a trustee or trustees personal or corporate to receive and hold any property on behalf of the Organisation and to allow any such property to remain outstanding in such trustee or trustees;
 - (o) to do all such acts and things as are or may be incidental or conducive to the attainment or furtherance of any of the objects or the exercise of any of the powers of the Organisation;
 - (p) notwithstanding the provisions of the above subclauses, the Organisation shall not be empowered to encumber the Organisation's Federal Headquarters building in any way whatsoever.
4. The Organisation is formed to carry out the objectives above-mentioned and not for the purpose of trading or securing pecuniary profit to the members from the transactions thereof.
 5. The income and property of the Party whencesoever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Party as set forth in this Constitution and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of profit to the members of the Party. Provided always that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration whether by way of salary or honoraria or otherwise in return for any service actually rendered to or on behalf of the Party, to any officers or servants of the Party or to any member thereof or other person.

6. If upon winding up or dissolution of the Party there remains after satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever the same shall not be paid or distributed amongst the members of the Party but shall be given or transferred to some company, association, society or other body having objects similar or in part similar to the objects of the Party and which shall prohibit the distribution of its or their income and property among its or their members to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the Party under or by virtue of the Constitution such company, association, society or other body to be determined by the Federal Council of the Party at or before the time of dissolution and in default thereof such Judge of the Supreme Court as may have or acquire jurisdiction in the matter.

Part IV - Structure of the Organisation

7. The Organisation shall comprise:-
- (a) the Federal Council, the Federal Executive and such other committees as are hereinafter provided;
 - (b) the Divisions as hereinafter constituted which are empowered to adopt from time to time, Constitutions, Standing Orders and rules (hereinafter called 'the Constitution of the Division') for the management and control of the affairs of a Division and in particular the following Parts of the Constitution which shall only apply to a Division which resolves to adopt the said Part or parts of any section thereof, namely -

PART V	Membership
PART VI	Branches
PART VIII	Executives of the Divisions
PART IX	Officers of the Divisions

Part V - Membership

8. Any person who is a resident of Australia or its Territories or who has a vote at the Federal or State election or an election for the Australian Capital Territory House of Assembly shall be eligible for enrolment as a member.
9. Rules relating to qualifications and applications for membership and their acceptance, expulsion of members, annual membership fee and rights and obligations of members shall be provided for in the Constitution of each Division.
10. Any person who resigns his membership or who has been expelled or had his membership suspended according to the provisions of the Constitution of his Division shall not be entitled to membership of the Federal Parliamentary Party or to participate in the meetings of that body.

Part VI - Branches

11. Branches of the Organisation may be formed in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of the relevant Divisions.
12. Branches of the Organisation may, with the consent of the Executive and upon such terms and conditions as it thinks fit, be formed in the Northern Territory.
13. The functions of a branch shall be:-
 - (a) to promote the objects, policy and platform of the Organisation;
 - (b) to work for the election to Parliament of the selected and endorsed candidate of the Organisation, and for that purpose to co-operate with all the other branches within the electorate and with committees in organising the electorate to that end;
 - (c) to enlist supporters of the Organisation as members of the branch;
 - (d) to raise funds for the purpose of the Organisation and for furtherance of its objects;
 - (e) to secure the enrolment of every person eligible as an elector and the removal from the Electoral Roll of the names of all unqualified persons;
 - (f) to encourage within the branch and the Organisation all educational work of a political, social and economic character;
 - (g) to adopt resolutions for submission to the Council of the Division or to such other committees in the Divisions as may be provided for in the Constitution of the Division.

No branch shall affiliate with any outside body without the consent of the relevant Divisional authority.

14. *(Clause 14 deleted by Resolution of the 1994 Federal Council and replaced by the following clause)*

Each branch shall elect annually or biennially a Committee consisting of a President, Secretary, Treasurer and such other office bearers, delegates or committees as may be required by the Constitution of the Division.

15. Subject to this Constitution and to the right of the relevant Divisional authority from time to time to prescribe by-laws to be observed and binding on branches generally, each branch shall have the conduct and management of its own affairs.
16. Where, in the opinion of the relevant Divisional authority, it is impractical to form a branch in an electorate, it may approve of the formation of a contact group or groups, and may from time to time prescribe by-laws for their control and management.

17. In this Part “the relevant Divisional authority” means the Council of the Division, the Executive of the Division or such other body which, under the existing Constitution of the Division concerned, is vested with the requisite power. If the Constitution of the Division is silent as to which body shall exercise the power, then the relevant Divisional authority shall be the Executive of the Division.

Part VII - Divisions

18. There shall be a Division of the Organisation in each State and the Australian Capital Territory consisting of the members of the Organisation resident therein and, subject to this Constitution, the management and control of the affairs of a Division shall be vested in the Council of the Division, except in the case of the Queensland Division where they shall be vested in the Convention.
19. The Council of a Division, or, in the case of the Queensland Division, a Convention shall have in addition power -
- (a) to exercise all or any of the powers of the Organisation as hereinbefore mentioned within the boundaries of its Division;
 - (b) to delegate all or any of its powers to the Executive of the Division or such other committee or committees as it may deem expedient, with the exception of any power or duty which is expressly reserved to it;
 - (c) to make rules or regulations for the conduct of its own business and that of the Division.
20. *(Clause 20 deleted by resolution of the 1994 Federal Council and replaced by the following clause)*

There shall be elected annually or biennially as determined by that Division a President, an Executive and such other office bearers and committees for the Division as may be provided for the Constitution of the relevant Division.

Part VIII - Executives of the Divisions

21. Subject to this Constitution and to the control of the Council of the Division, or Convention in the case of the Queensland Division, the management of the affairs of the Organisation in each Division shall be vested in the Executive of the Division.
22. It shall exercise such powers and functions as are expressly conferred upon it by the Constitution of the Division and in addition such powers and functions as may be conferred upon it by the Council of the Division or Convention in the case of the Queensland Division.
23. The Federal President and the Federal Parliamentary Leader of the Party shall be Members ex-officio of the Executive of each Division.

Part IX - Officers of the Divisions

24. The Executive of a Division or such other body as may be authorised to that end under the Constitution of that relevant Division may from time to time engage upon such terms as it thinks fit a Chief Executive Officer and such other officers as it considers necessary.

Part X - Federal Council

25. There shall be a Federal Council which shall consist of:-

- (a) the President of each Division or, where the President is otherwise a member of Federal Council by virtue of subclauses 25(h) or (j)(i), (ii) or (iii), a Delegate who is not a member of Parliament or a member of Federal Council by virtue of other provisions of this clause 25, and who is chosen by that Division;

- (b) *(Clause 25(b) deleted by Resolution of the 1994 Federal Council and replaced by the following clause)*

The President of the Women's Section in each Division or, in the event that she is concurrently the President of the Federal Women's Committee, her nominee;

- (c) *(Clause 25(c) amended by Resolution of the 2009 Federal Council)*

the President of the Young Liberal Movement from each Division or, in the event that he or she is concurrently the Federal President or Federal Vice-President of the Young Liberal Movement of Australia, his or her nominee;

- (d) *(Clause 25(d) amended by Resolution of the 2009 Federal Council)*

each State and Territory Parliamentary Leader;

- (e) *(Clause 25(e) deleted by Resolution of the 2009 Federal Council and replaced by the following clause)*

Ten other delegates chosen annually or biennially by each Division as determined by that Division, the majority of whom shall not be Members of Parliament; provided that no person who is already a member of Federal Council by virtue of other provisions of this clause 25 may be chosen as a delegate under this provision;

- (f) the Federal Parliamentary Leader and Deputy Leader, and the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Parliamentary Party in the Senate;

- (g) the Federal President and Federal Vice-President of the Young Liberal Movement of Australia;

- (h) the Immediate Past Federal President;

- (i) the President of the Federal Women's Committee;

- (j) subject to clauses 28 and 29 of this Constitution:-
 - i) the Federal President;
 - ii) the Federal Vice-Presidents;
 - iii) the Honorary Federal Treasurer;
 - iv) the successor to the Federal President;
 - v) the successor to the Honorary Federal Treasurer;
 - (k) *(Clause 25(k) inserted by Resolution of the 2009 Federal Council)*
 the Chairman of the Federal Regional and Rural Committee established by clause 85.
26. Save as expressly provided in this Constitution and without limiting the powers of each Division, the management and control of the federal affairs of the Organisation shall be vested in the Federal Council and, in addition to any powers and duties herein given and vested in the Federal Council, such Council shall have power:-
- (a) to exercise all or any of the powers of the Organisation as hereinbefore mentioned;
 - (b) to make such by-laws as may be required for carrying out any of its powers;
 - (c) to delegate all or any of its powers to the Federal Executive or such other committee or committees as it may deem expedient, with the exception of any power or duty which is expressly reserved to the Federal Council.
27. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing provisions the duties of the Council shall be:-
- (a) to do everything in its power to stimulate the progress of Liberalism in Australia;
 - (b) to express the views of the Organisation on current political questions as they arise;
 - (c) to raise, administer and invest funds for the performance of its duties and those of the Federal Executive and the Federal Secretariat;
 - (d) to maintain the Federal Secretariat;
 - (e) to co-ordinate the activities of the various Divisions in relation to federal matters;
 - (f) from time to time determine, alter or amend the platform of the Party subject to provisions hereinafter contained.
28. (a) *(Clause 28(a) amended by Resolution of the 2009 Federal Council)*
 The Federal Council shall elect annually a President, four Vice-Presidents (of whom one shall be a woman and one a man) and a Treasurer. No more than two of the Vice-Presidents shall be from any one Division. The Federal Council shall adopt the following procedure in conducting the election. The Federal Council shall separately elect one female Vice-President and one male Vice-President and shall then elect, separately, two further Vice-Presidents.

- (b) The Federal Council may in its discretion elect to the office of President, Vice-President or Treasurer any person who at the time of election is a financial member of a Division of the Party whether or not such a person is also a member of Federal Council.
 - (c) A person elected to the office of President, Honorary Treasurer or Vice-President shall be a member of Council ex officio from the time he assumes office. If he is not a member of Council at the time of his election he shall become a member of Council ex officio immediately the result of his election is declared notwithstanding that he shall not assume the office to which he has been elected until the conclusion of the meeting of the Council at which he is elected.
29. (a) The President, Vice-Presidents and Honorary Treasurer shall assume their respective offices at the conclusion of the meeting of Federal Council at which they are appointed and shall hold the same until the conclusion of the meeting of the Council at which their successors are appointed.
- (b) All other members of the Federal Council and members of all Committees shall continue to hold their respective offices until their successors are appointed.
30. The Federal President shall preside at all meetings of the Federal Council at which he is present. In the absence of the President, the Chair will be taken by a Vice-President, or, in the absence of both Vice-Presidents, by some person elected by the Council for that meeting of the Council.
31. Any extraordinary vacancy in the offices of President, Vice-Presidents or Honorary Treasurer shall be filled by the Federal Executive, subject to the confirmation of the next meeting of the Federal Council.
32. Casual vacancies on the Council among the delegates referred to in clause 25(e) of this Constitution shall be filled by the Division concerned.
33. The Council shall appoint such committees as from time to time it may consider necessary. It shall fix their numbers and determine the scope of their authority. All such committees shall be subject to the authority of the Council and shall report to it whenever it meets.
34. The Federal President, the Immediate Past Federal President and the Federal Parliamentary Leader of the Party shall be members ex officio of all Federal committees.
35. There shall be an ordinary meeting of Federal Council each calendar year unless the Federal Executive otherwise determines, provided that in no case shall there be more than two years between ordinary meetings of Council. Special meetings of Federal Council may be held on such occasions as Federal Executive shall determine.

36. *(Clause 36 deleted by Resolution of the 1994 Federal Council and replaced by the following clause)*

Unless in case of urgency or as the Federal Executive shall otherwise determine, at least 28 days notice shall be given to members of the Federal Council of the date and place of any meeting of the Council and at least 14 days notice of the business to be transacted thereat. Any proposal to amend this Constitution shall require 60 days notice.

37. *(Clause 37 amended by Resolution of the 2009 Federal Council)*

At all meetings of the Federal Council a quorum shall consist of twenty-one persons provided that a majority of the Divisions are represented by members present in person or by proxy. Each member of Federal Council has a duty to act in the interests of the Organisation as a whole.

38. Should any members of the Council be unable to attend any meeting he, or failing appointment by him the President of the relevant Division, may, by writing under his hand addressed to the Federal President, appoint some other person being a member of the Council of his Division or the Federal Council to act as his proxy, and such person shall vote on his behalf accordingly.

Part XI - Federal Executive

39. There shall be a Federal Executive consisting of:-

- (a) the Federal President;
- (b) the Vice-Presidents;
- (c) the Federal Parliamentary Leader;
- (d) the Deputy Federal Parliamentary Leader;
- (e) the Leader of the Parliamentary Party in the Senate;
- (f) the Deputy Leader of the Parliamentary Party in the Senate;
- (g) the Honorary Federal Treasurer;
- (h) the Presidents of the Divisions or their nominees;
- (i) the President of the Federal Women's Committee;
- (j) the Federal President of the Young Liberal Movement of Australia;
- (k) the Immediate Past Federal President;
- (l) the Federal Vice-President of the Young Liberal Movement of Australia;
- (m) *(Clause 39(m) inserted by Resolution of the 1994 Federal Council and amended by Resolution of the 2009 Federal Council)*
the Chairman of the Federal Regional and Rural Committee.

40. Subject to this Constitution and to the control of the Federal Council, the management of the affairs of the Council shall be vested in the Federal Executive, and in addition to any powers and duties herein given and vested in the Federal Executive it shall:-
- (a) exercise the powers and functions of the Council between meetings other than the power to amend this Constitution;
 - (b) do all things necessary and essential to the efficient management of the affairs of the Council;
 - (c) *(Clause 40(c) deleted by Resolution of the 1999 Federal Council and replaced with the following clause)*
 appoint a Federal Director and fix his or her remuneration and terms of employment;
 - (d) report to each meeting of the Federal Council its doings since the previous meeting of the Council;
 - (da) *(Clause 40(da) inserted by Resolution of the 2009 Federal Council)*
 have the power to impose one or more conditions set out in writing and binding upon a State or Territory Division and requiring compliance within a reasonable period stated in the notice provided that such notice shall require a vote of not less than 75% of the members of the Federal Executive present and voting, including a simple majority of the Division Presidents or their proxies present and voting. This provision applies where the Federal Executive believes that one or more of the grounds set out in subclause 40(e) exist in relation to a Division and subclauses 40(e), (ea), (eb) and (ec), but not subclauses (ed) to (ef) inclusive, apply to this provision;
(Clauses 40(e), (f) and (g) inserted by Resolution of the 1994 Federal Council)
(Clause 40(e) deleted by Resolution of the 2009 Federal Council and replaced by Clauses 40(e) to (ef))
 - (e) Where the Federal Executive believes that any one or more of the following grounds exist in relation to a Division, the Federal Executive may resolve to take over the management of that Division in accordance with subclauses (e) to (ef) inclusive. Such grounds are as follows:
 - (i) insolvency, a substantial risk of insolvency or serious financial mismanagement or irregularity in respect of the Division or any of its associated entities;
 - (ii) substantial non-compliance with the Organisation's Federal Constitution or with conditions imposed on a Division by the Federal Executive;
 - (iii) the existence of circumstances that, in the opinion of the Federal Executive, substantially prejudice the ability of the Party to effectively contest or win a federal election;
 - (ea) The Federal Executive shall be convened on not less than 14 days notice to consider any matter raised under subclause (e);

- (eb) For subclause (e) to apply, the Federal Executive must have communicated in writing to the Division concerned the following:
- (i) the ground or grounds set out in subclause (e) that it believes to be applicable;
 - (ii) a request that the Division rectify the circumstances constituting such grounds;
 - (iii) the time by which such rectification shall occur which shall be a period that, in the circumstances, is reasonable;
- and the Division concerned must have failed to comply with the request of the Federal Executive;
- (ec) For the purposes of subclause (e) the Federal Executive may conduct a financial enquiry into and/or appoint any person to investigate the affairs financial or otherwise of any State or Territory Division and to report thereon and for this purpose every employee, member or office-bearer of the Division shall provide such information or assistance as is required by written notice from the Federal Director or such other person as is appointed by the Federal Executive pursuant to this subclause;
- (ed) For the purposes of subclause (e) the Federal Executive may:
- (i) appoint an administrator or committee to take over the management of that Division which administrator or committee shall have the powers specified by the Federal Executive and shall comply with the terms of reference specified by the Federal Executive;
 - (ii) rescind or amend any decision made by the State or Territory executive or governing or other body of that Division; and
 - (iii) terminate the taking over of the management of that Division
- Provided that neither the Federal Executive nor the administrator or committee shall have power to amend the Constitution of the Division concerned;
- (ee) Where the Federal Executive resolves to take over the management of a Division pursuant to subclause (e) the Federal Executive shall specify the following:
- (i) the ground or grounds upon which such resolution is based;
 - (ii) the term of such taking over which shall not exceed two years;
 - (iii) the term of appointment of any such administrator or committee which shall not exceed two years;
 - (iv) the purpose of the taking over;
 - (v) the powers and terms of reference of any administrator or committee;
 - (vi) the frequency of reports from any administrator or committee to the Federal Executive which shall be not less than each three months after the taking over; and

- (vii) confirmation that in the opinion of the Federal Executive the taking over the management of the Division concerned is in the interests of the Organisation as a whole;
- (ef) Every resolution under subclauses (e) to (ee) inclusive must be passed by an affirmative vote of not less than 75% of the Federal Executive members present and voting, including a simple majority of the Division Presidents or their proxies present and voting;
- (f) The Federal Executive shall have the following power, in relation to candidates chosen for the Senate and the House of Representatives:-
 - (i) where the Federal Executive, on the reference of the relevant Division or the advice of the Candidate Review Committee, is of the view that following the preselection or endorsement of a candidate there are matters or potential public controversy with regard to the personal circumstances of that candidate which were not taken sufficiently into account in the preselection process and which are likely to jeopardise the Party's prospects of electoral success it may request the relevant Division to review the preselection or endorsement of that candidate in accordance with the appropriate procedures of that Division and report back to the Federal Executive within a reasonable time on the outcome of its review;
 - (ii) *(Clause 40(f)(ii) deleted by Resolution of the 1996 Federal Council and replaced by the following clause)*
 following the receipt of the Division's review set out in paragraph (i) above, and after hearing the candidate, if the Federal Executive is not satisfied with the review and considers that the selected candidate is not the most suitable candidate, it may by an affirmative vote of at least 2/3 of its members present and voting and including 2/3 of all Divisional Presidents revoke the selection of the candidate for the Senate or Federal electorate in question and require the Division to take such steps as are necessary to select or appoint a new candidate who shall become the selected candidate for the Party;
 - (iii) for the purposes of paragraph (i) above the Candidate Review Committee shall comprise the Federal President, the two Federal Vice-Presidents, the relevant State President and two relevant Divisional Vice Presidents chosen by the Division or in the event that a Division has only one Vice President an additional member of the Executive chosen by that Division;
- (g) *(Clause 40(g)(i) and (ii) deleted by Resolution of the 1996 Federal Council and replaced by the following clause)*
 - (i) Where the Federal Executive on the advice of the relevant Division or the advice of a Review Committee is of the view that the public actions or statements of Federal candidates or Members of Parliament are not in the best interests of the Party, it may request the relevant Division

to take whatever action that Division considers necessary (including to express concern, censure, reprimand, dis-endorse or expel).

- (ii) Following the advice on the Division's action, if the Federal Executive is not satisfied with the procedures adopted in accordance with paragraph (i) above, it may by an affirmative vote of at least 2/3 of its members present and voting and including 2/3 of all Divisional Presidents take whatever action it considers necessary (including the power to express concern, censure, reprimand, dis-endorse or recommend expulsion to the relevant Division or body) but before such power is exercised any candidate or Member who is likely to be affected by such action shall have the right to be heard.
 - (iii) Where the Federal Executive resolves to dis-endorse a candidate it shall require the Division in question to take such steps as are necessary to select or appoint a new candidate who shall become the selected candidate for the Party.
 - (iv) For the purpose of paragraph (i) above the Review Committee shall comprise the Federal President, the two Federal-Vice Presidents, the relevant State President and two relevant Divisional Vice Presidents chosen by the Division or in the event that a Division has only one Vice President an additional member of the Executive chosen by that Division;
- (h) *(Clause 40(h) inserted by Resolution of the 2009 Federal Council)*
- convene a National Convention of the Organisation so far as is practicable, at least once in every three years;
- (i) *(Clause 40(i) inserted by Resolution of the 2009 Federal Council)*
- where between the announcement of the calling of a federal general election or one or more federal by-elections and the closing of the polls at the election concerned:
- (i) whether by formal resolution or otherwise, a Division in respect of which urgent circumstances exist (as defined below) may request that the urgent circumstances be dealt with by the Party office-bearers pursuant to this Subclause and thereupon a quorum of the Party office-bearers shall have the powers provided by this Subclause;
 - (ii) where no request has been made by a Division as provided in paragraph (i) above and a Division is unable or unwilling to deal with urgent circumstances, a quorum of the Party office-bearers shall have powers to deal with those urgent circumstances in accordance with this Subclause;
 - (iii) the powers referred to in paragraphs (i) and (ii) above are powers to take disciplinary action in respect of the member or members concerned and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, to impose a penalty, to suspend the member from membership of the

Organisation, to withdraw endorsement of any candidate or to expel a member from the Organisation; Provided that these powers do not apply to a Member of the House of Representatives or Senator who is a candidate and who was a sitting Member or Senator immediately before the calling of the election or by-election concerned;

(iv) for the purpose of this Subclause:

“Party office-bearers” means the Federal President, the Federal Vice-Presidents, the Federal Treasurer, the Federal Director (“collectively referred to for the purposes of this clause as the Federal office-bearers”), the President of the Division concerned and no more than two Vice-Presidents of the Division concerned;

“quorum” means at least three of the Federal office-bearers and at least one of the office-bearers of the Division concerned; Provided that, if any of the situations set out in Subclause (i)(v)(c) apply, a quorum shall be constituted by any four Federal office-bearers;

“urgent circumstances” exist when one or more members (including any endorsed candidate but not including any sitting Member of Parliament) have, in the past, made statements or taken actions of which the Party becomes aware or makes statements or takes actions that are or could be prejudicial to the electoral interests of the Party or which could substantially lessen the Party’s prospects of election to Government or of winning any one or more seats in the Commonwealth Parliament;

(v) the powers provided by this Subclause may be exercised as follows:

(a) where the Federal Director forms the view that urgent circumstances exist or might exist he shall advise the Federal President and the Leader of the Federal Parliamentary Party accordingly as soon as practicable;

(b) the Federal Director shall then contact the relevant Division to ascertain whether the Division is able or willing to deal with the urgent circumstances or desires to make a request under Subclause (i)(i) above;

(c) if, within a time that is reasonable in the circumstances the Division’s office-bearers cannot be contacted or do not respond to the Federal Director; the Division makes a request under Subclause (i)(i) above but does not make the Division’s office-bearers available for a meeting in relation to the urgent circumstances; the Division is unable or unwilling to deal with the urgent circumstances; or the Division’s office-bearers do not make themselves available for a meeting in relation to the urgent circumstances; then a quorum of not less than four of the Federal office-bearers may deal with the urgent circumstances and exercise the powers provided by this Subclause;

- (d) in conformity with Subclause (i)(v)(c) above, the Federal Director shall contact the Federal office-bearers and the Division's office-bearers and give them written notice of a meeting by facsimile, email or other written form which notice shall be reasonable in the circumstances involved but no action taken by a quorum of the Party office-bearers pursuant to this Subclause shall be invalid by reason of the fact that the Federal Director, after having made reasonable efforts to contact all of the Federal office-bearers and the Division's office-bearers and give them written notice of the meeting, is unable to contact or has not contacted all of the Federal office-bearers and/or the Division's office-bearers;
- (e) the Party office-bearers, or not less than a quorum of them, may meet in person or in any other manner that allows communication between them to decide whether to exercise the powers provided by this Subclause and to exercise such powers as they see fit, in order to deal with the urgent circumstances;
- (f) the meeting referred to in Subclause (i)(v)(e) above may exercise any power in Subclause (i)(iii);
- (g) each member of the Organisation is deemed to have irrevocably agreed to the terms and application of this Subclause and no action taken under this Subclause shall be challenged on any basis.

40A. *(Clause 40A inserted by Resolution of the 2009 Federal Council)*

- (a) The Federal Executive has responsibility to protect the Party's name, logo, brand and other intellectual property of the Party.
- (b) The Federal Executive may by notice in writing remove the right of a State or Territory Division or other associated body of the party to use the Party's name, logo, brand and other intellectual property, and may establish, constitute or reconstitute a Division in a State or Territory. The exercise of this power shall require a resolution passed by a vote of not less than 75% of the members of Federal Executive, including a simple majority of the Division Presidents or their proxies present and voting.
- (c) A State or Territory Division or other associated body of the party may do any of the following things only with the prior approval of the Federal Executive; such approval to be by a resolution approved by a simple majority of the Federal Executive members voting on a resolution to grant approval and any relevant action taken without such approval shall be invalid and of no effect:

- (i) Wind-up, discontinue, disband or otherwise terminate the existence of the Division or dispose of substantially the whole of its assets (nothing in this provision shall affect the right of a Division to acquire or dispose of assets in the normal course of the Division's operations);
- (ii) Enter into any arrangement for joint working or co-operation with any other party, association, society or body of persons whether incorporated or not (the following are not subject to this provision: the formation of a Parliamentary Coalition or other Parliamentary working arrangement and the acquisition of goods and services by the Division in the normal course of its operations).

The Federal Executive may delegate to the Federal Director the power to approve any such arrangement and the Federal Director shall report such approval to the Federal Executive within a reasonable time. Where the Federal Director considers that an arrangement should not be approved, he shall refer the matter to the Federal Executive and the matter shall be determined by the Federal Executive;

- (iii) Merge or amalgamate with any other party, association, society or body of persons whether incorporated or not;
- (iv) Use the name "Liberal" (whether alone or in conjunction with other words) or the Organisation's logo;
- (v) Authorise or purport to authorise the use of the Organisation's logo or the name "Liberal" (whether alone or in conjunction with other words) by any other party, association, society or body of persons whether incorporated or not. This paragraph does not apply to authorisations granted by a State or Territory Division or other associated body of the party prior to the date when this subclause 40A became operative;
- (vi) Otherwise deal with the "brand" of the Party in respect of or in association with any other party or entity.

41. The Federal Executive may delegate any of its powers to sub-committees consisting of members of the Executive or of the Organisation.

Every sub-committee shall in the exercise of the powers so delegated conform to any regulations which may from time to time be imposed upon it by the Federal Executive and shall hold office for such period as the Executive shall determine.

The Federal Executive may empower any sub-committee so appointed to make final decisions upon any question and take action thereon.

42. *(Clause 42 deleted by Resolution of the 1996 Federal Council and replaced by the following clause)*

The Federal Executive may meet for the dispatch of business and adjourn and otherwise regulate its meetings and proceedings as and when it thinks fit, save that in regard to determination of matters under Clause 40(e) a minimum notice period of fourteen (14) days shall apply.

A member may participate and vote in Federal Executive Meetings by tele-conference or video conference if they so request.

43. At all meetings of the Federal Executive the Federal President or his nominee shall preside and the person so presiding shall have a casting as well as a deliberative vote.
44. Casual vacancies on the Federal Executive shall be filled by the Executive of the Division concerned appointing from among its members on the Federal Council a person to fill the vacancy.
45. Should any member of the Executive be unable to attend any meeting he may by writing under his hand addressed to the Federal President appoint some other person being a member of the Federal Council to act as his proxy.
46. *(Clause 46 amended by Resolution of the 2009 Federal Council)*

At all meetings of the Federal Executive a quorum shall consist of eight persons provided that a majority of the Divisions are represented by members present in person or by proxy. Each member of Federal Executive has a duty to act in the interests of the Organisation as a whole.

Part XII - Federal Secretariat

47. There shall be a Federal Secretariat which shall be established at such place and under such conditions as the Federal Executive may from time to time determine.
48. The Secretariat shall be composed of a Director and other such officers as the Director may appoint.
(Clause 48(a) inserted by Resolution of the 1999 Federal Council)
 - (a) The Director shall appoint officers of the Federal Secretariat and fix their remuneration and the terms of their employment.
49. The power and functions of the Federal Secretariat shall be:-
 - (a) to co-ordinate the activities of the Divisions on a Federal basis;
 - (b) to record and give effect to decisions of the Federal Council and Executive; and to report progress to Divisions on all resolutions submitted to Federal Council;
 - (c) to provide means for economic and political research and study;
 - (d) to establish efficient contact between the Organisation and the Federal Parliamentary Party and the public by all such means as may be available;
 - (e) to maintain constant contact with Divisions and office-bearers of the Divisions;
 - (f) generally to attend to such matters as may be referred to it by the Federal Council or Executive;
 - (g) *(Clause 49(g) inserted by Resolution of the 1999 Federal Council)*
to undertake Federal election campaigns in conjunction with Divisions.

Part XIII - Publicity

50. Publicity for Federal purposes shall be controlled and organised by the Federal Secretariat, under the general control of the Federal Council, and in co-operation with any publicity section or committee which may be established by each Division.

Part XIV - Parliamentary Party

51. The Parliamentary section of the Organisation shall consist in the Federal sphere of the members of the Organisation elected to Federal Parliament and maintaining membership of the Organisation, and in each State of the members of the Organisation elected to the State parliament, and it shall be known as the Federal Parliamentary Party and the State Parliamentary Party respectively. In the Australian Capital Territory the Parliamentary section of the Organisation shall consist of the members of the Organisation elected to the Australian Capital Territory House of Assembly and maintaining membership of the Organisation and it shall be known as the Australian Capital Territory Parliamentary Party.
52. The Parliamentary Party shall:-
- (a) appoint its Leader, who shall thereupon become the Parliamentary Leader of the Organisation;
 - (b) be responsible for the work and duties of Members of Parliament and for the organisation of that work.
53. It shall be the duty of the Parliamentary Party and of the Organisation to keep one another informed on all political matters and to co-operate closely. There shall be regular meetings between the Leader of the Federal Parliamentary Party, Deputy Leader of the Federal Parliamentary Party, the Leader of the Parliamentary Party in the Senate, the Federal President and the Federal Vice-Presidents.

(Clauses 54 & 55 deleted by Resolution of the 1993 Federal Council and reserved for future use)

Part XV - Determination and Implementation of Federal Platform and Policies

56. Platform
- (a) As between the Organisation and the Federal Parliamentary Party, the Organisation shall have the ultimate responsibility for determining and from time to time revising the Federal Platform. The Federal Platform shall state the Party's philosophical position on the policy framework required to meet the objectives of the Organisation and shall set out the principles against which policy shall be formulated.
 - (b) The Council shall carry the primary responsibility for the determination and, from time to time, the revision, of the Federal Platform on behalf of the Organisation. It shall be the responsibility of the Federal Executive to

communicate the Federal Platform and any changes to it from time to time to the Federal Parliamentary Party, through the Federal Parliamentary Leader.

- (c) The Federal Parliamentary Party may, through the Federal Parliamentary Leader, from time to time ask for a review of the Federal Platform or any part of it. Upon receipt of any such request, the Federal Secretariat shall refer it to the Council, which may (subject to paragraph (e)):
 - (i) adopt it or refer it back to the Federal Parliamentary Party for further consideration; and
 - (ii) in the case of matters affecting the implementation of the Federal Platform, advise the Federal Parliamentary Party thereon.
- (d) Any Division may, from time to time, ask for a review of the Federal Platform or any part of it. Any such request may only be made upon a resolution to that effect by the Executive of the relevant Division and shall be forwarded to the Federal Secretariat for submission to the Council. Upon receipt of any such request, the Federal Secretariat shall refer it to the Council, which (subject to paragraph (e) below):
 - (i) may adopt it or refer it back to the Council (in Queensland the Convention) of the relevant Division for further consideration; and
 - (ii) in the case of matters affecting the implementation of the Federal Platform, advise the Federal Parliamentary Party thereon.
- (e) In determining the Federal Platform and considering any revision of it, the Council shall consult with the Advisory Committee on Federal Policy in such manner as the Council shall determine.
- (f) The Federal Parliamentary Party shall be bound by the Federal Platform, except in so far as the Federal Platform purports to determine Federal policy matters which are properly the province of the Federal Parliamentary Party as hereinafter provided.

57. Policy

- (a) As between the Organisation and the Federal Parliamentary Party, the Federal Parliamentary Party shall have ultimate responsibility for the determination and, from time to time, the revision of Federal Policy. Federal Policy shall consist of a statement of the detailed means and programs by which the objectives of the Federal Platform are proposed to be met and achieved by the Federal Parliamentary Party, whether in government or in opposition.
- (b) The Ministers, Shadow Ministers or spokesmen elected or appointed by the Federal Parliamentary Party shall carry the primary responsibility for policy formulation on behalf of the Federal Parliamentary Party. In

the preparation of policy, Ministers, Shadow Ministers and spokesmen shall consult with people and groups of people within the Organisation (including, but not limited to, Divisions, the Parliamentary Policy Committee, relevant Backbench Committees and Ministry or Shadow Ministry Management Groups and, where appropriate, the standing committees of the Party such as the Federal Women's Committee and the Young Liberal Movement of Australia). After formulating in this way a draft policy, the Ministers, Shadow Ministers or spokesmen shall confer and consult with the Advisory Committee on Federal Policy prior to the adoption of the policy by the Parliamentary Party.

- (c) Without limiting the scope of paragraph (b), when the Federal Parliamentary Party is in Opposition, it shall, prior to the adoption of any major election policies or policy directions, refer them to the Federal Executive for comment. Similarly, when the Federal Parliamentary Party is in government, it may refer proposed new policies or policy directions to the Federal Executive for such comment. On any such referral and in any other case, the Federal Executive may resolve to make policy recommendations to the Federal Parliamentary Party, but such policy recommendations shall not be binding on the Federal Parliamentary Party. Any such recommendations shall be dealt with as follows:
 - (i) resolutions passed by the Federal Council relating to Federal Policy matters shall be forwarded to the Leader of the Federal Parliamentary Party for submission to a Federal Parliamentary Party meeting, and copies of such resolutions shall be forwarded to the appropriate Liberal Ministers or Parliamentary spokesmen;
 - (ii) the Federal Parliamentary Party shall consider policy resolutions of the Federal Council so forwarded to it and shall communicate its decisions in respect of such resolutions and the reasons for those decisions to the Federal Executive within a reasonable time of the Federal Parliamentary Party's receipt of the same;
 - (iii) the Federal President shall present to each meeting of Federal Council a report on the Federal Parliamentary Party's decisions in respect to past resolutions passed by the previous Federal Council and the reasons for those decisions;
 - (iv) the Leader of the Federal Parliamentary Party shall report to the Federal Executive on the implementation of policy recommended by the Organisation.
- (d) There shall be an Advisory Committee on Federal Policy consisting of:-

- (i) the Federal Parliamentary Leader and the Deputy Federal Parliamentary Leader, and the Leader and the Deputy Leader of the Federal Parliamentary Party in the Senate;
 - (ii) the Federal President;
 - (iii) the Immediate Past Federal President, the Federal Vice-Presidents and the Honorary Federal Treasurer;
 - (iv) the President of the Federal Women's Committee;
 - (v) the Federal President of the Young Liberal Movement of Australia;
 - (vi) the Chairman of the Federal Regional and Rural Committee;
 - (vii) seven non parliamentary members, one from each Division to be nominated by the President of that Division.
- (e) While the Federal Parliamentary Party is in Opposition, the Shadow Ministers shall be required to keep the Advisory Committee on Federal Policy informed from time to time on the development of policies prior to elections.
- (f) The Advisory Committee on Federal Policy shall, from time to time, provide such assistance to the Federal Parliamentary Party in the formulation of Federal Policy as may be requested of it by the Federal Parliamentary Party. To that end, the Advisory Committee on Federal Policy shall meet at least three (3) times in each year, at such times as may be determined by the Federal President. All meetings of the Advisory Committee on Federal Policy shall be chaired by the Federal Parliamentary Leader or, in his absence, the Federal President.
- (g) In addition to the matters set out above, the functions of the Advisory Committee on Federal Policy shall be to give consideration to such matters of policy as the committee itself may from time to time determine, or as may be referred to it by any Division or Branch (subject, in the case of any Branch, to the relevant Federal Electorate Committee or its equivalent approving of the referral). The Advisory Committee on Federal Policy shall, either of its own motion or by request of the Federal Executive, be permitted to ask the Federal Parliamentary Party or any Minister, Shadow Minister or spokesman to consider new or revised policy proposals which have the support of the Advisory Committee on Federal Policy.

58. *(Clause 58 deleted by Resolution of the 1993 Federal Council and replaced by the following clause)*

Nominees

Should either the Federal Parliamentary Leader or the Federal President be unable to attend any meeting of the Advisory Committee on Federal Policy he may, by writing under his hand addressed to the Chairman, appoint some other person who is a member of the Federal Parliamentary Party (in the former case) or a member of the Federal Executive (in the latter case) to act as his proxy.

Should any other member of the Advisory Committee on Federal Policy be unable to attend any meeting he may, or failing appointment by him the President of the relevant Division or Young Liberal Movement, Federal Women's Committee or Chairman of the Federal Regional and Rural Committee, in the case of a non parliamentary member, and the Federal Parliamentary Leader in the case of a parliamentary member, may, by notice in writing under his hand addressed to the Chairman, appoint some other person being a member of the Divisional Executive (in the former case) or a member of the Federal Parliamentary Party (in the latter case) to act as his proxy.

(Clauses 59 to 64 deleted by Resolution of the 1993 Federal Council and replaced by the following new Clauses 59 to 64)

Committee on Electoral Matters

59. There shall be a Committee on Electoral Matters.
60. The Committee on Electoral Matters shall consist of:-
 - (a) Federal President or his nominee;
 - (b) Federal Director or his nominee;
 - (c) a person appointed by Federal Executive;
 - (d) Federal Parliamentary Leader or his nominee; and
 - (e) two (2) members of the Federal Parliamentary Party nominated by the Leader.
61. The Committee on Electoral Matters shall be responsible for:-
 - (a) Policy development; and
 - (b) Review and monitoring of electoral matters which affect the Organisation in the areas of:
 - (i) administration;
 - (ii) finance; and
 - (iii) campaigning.
62. The Committee on Electoral Matters shall consider and make recommendations to Federal Executive and the Parliamentary Party on all electoral matters governed by legislation of the Commonwealth Government.
63. The Committee on Electoral Matters will be jointly convened by the Federal President and Parliamentary Leader.
64. The Committee on Electoral Matters shall report regularly to Federal Executive.
65. Should any member of the Committee be unable to attend any meeting he may, or failing appointment by him the President of the relevant Division in the case of a non-Parliamentary member or the Federal Parliamentary Leader in the case of a Parliamentary member may, by writing under his own hand addressed to the Chairman, appoint some other person being a member of the Divisional Executive and a member for the Parliamentary Party respectively to act as his proxy.

Part XVI - Joint Standing Committee on State Policy

66. There shall be a Joint Standing Committee on State Policy in each State Division consisting of representatives of the Parliamentary Parties and non-Parliamentary members of the Organisation.
67. The powers and functions of such a committee and the method of its election and operation shall be determined by the State Constitution of the Division.
68. The State Parliamentary Leader shall from time to time, after consultation with such a committee, announce the policy of the Party for his State.

Part XVII - Finance

69. Each Division shall appoint a Finance Committee.
The Constitution of each Division shall prescribe the method of election of the Divisional Finance Committee, the appointment of Trustees, the method of collection, investment and disbursement of donations, bequests and other funds, the delegation of such powers and functions and such other requirements deemed necessary for the financing of the operations of the Division.
70. The Federal Council shall annually appoint a Federal Finance Committee consisting of the Federal Treasurer as Chairman, the Presidents of the Divisions and one representative from each Divisional Finance Committee nominated by the respective Divisions. If any of the nominated members cease to be a member of his Divisional Finance Committee he shall automatically cease to be a member of the Federal Committee. The Division concerned may then nominate another member of the Divisional Finance Committee in his place.
71. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Constitution, no member of a Parliamentary Party shall be a member of the Federal Finance Committee.
72. Should any member of the Federal Finance Committee be unable to attend any meeting he may, or failing appointment by him the President of the relevant Division may, by writing under his hand addressed to the Federal Treasurer, appoint some other person being a member of the relevant Divisional Finance Committee to act as his proxy.
73. The Federal Executive may also appoint a Trustee for any purpose for which it thinks the appointment of Trustees desirable and such Trustees shall hold office until removed by resolution of the Federal Executive.
74. Save as provided in the next clause, the Divisions shall raise and control the funds necessary for carrying out their powers and duties.
75. The functions of the Federal Finance Committee shall be:-
 - (a) to provide for the financing of the Federal Council, Executive and Secretariat, subject to the authority of the Federal Council;
 - (b) to receive from each Division a budget and Financial Statement at the beginning of each financial year and as and when required thereafter.

76. At all meetings of the Federal Finance Committee the Honorary Federal Treasurer or his nominee shall preside and the person so presiding shall have a casting as well as a deliberative vote.
77. The Federal Executive shall appoint annually an auditor.
78. Unless otherwise determined, the financial year of the Organisation shall begin on the 1st July in each year.

Part XVIII - Federal Women's Committee

79. There shall be a Federal Women's Committee consisting of:-
 - (a) the President of the Women's Section in each Division;
 - (b) the Woman Federal Vice-President;
 - (c) the Immediate Past President of the Federal Women's Committee;
 - (d) the President for the time being of the Federal Women's Committee.
80. The functions of such Committee shall be:-
 - (a) to actively encourage and promote participation by women in both the Parliamentary Party and Organisation;
 - (b) to advise on policy matters;
 - (c) to act as the coordinating body of women's work and activity in the Divisions;
 - (d) to receive and distribute information on the work and activities of women in the respective Divisions;
 - (e) to report to each meeting of the Federal Executive.
81. There shall be a meeting (the Ordinary Federal Council Meeting) of the Committee held within seven (7) days before the commencement of each ordinary meeting of Federal Council and there shall be such other meetings of the Committee as the President may from time to time designate.
82. (a) *(Clause 82(a) deleted by Resolution of the 1996 Federal Council and replaced by the following clause)*
 The Federal Women's Committee shall hold a meeting in the first quarter of every calendar year, at which the Committee shall elect its own President and other office bearers who shall hold office until their successors are appointed.
 - (b) A person holding the office of Woman Federal Vice-President whilst holding that office shall not be eligible to be elected to the office of President of the Federal Women's Committee.
83. A casual vacancy in the office of President of the Federal Women's Committee shall be filled by the Federal Women's Committee.

84. Should any member of this Committee be unable to attend any meeting she may, or failing appointment by her the President of the Division concerned may, by writing under her hand addressed to the Federal President, appoint some other woman member of the Division to act as her proxy.

(Part XIX inserted by Resolution of the 1994 Federal Council)

Part XIX - Federal Regional and Rural Committee

85. There shall be a Federal Regional and Rural Committee consisting of:-
- (a) A representative from each Division, as determined by that Division;
 - (b) A Federal Parliamentarian, nominated by the Leader of the Federal Parliamentary Party;
 - (c) The immediate past Chairman of Federal Regional and Rural Committee;
 - (d) The Chairman for the time being of the Federal Regional and Rural Committee.
86. The functions of such a Committee shall be:-
- (a) to receive and distribute information on issues relating to regional and rural Australia;
 - (b) to discuss and advise on policy issues relating to regional and rural Australia;
 - (c) to regularly meet with regional and rural groups, and generally raise the Liberal presence in regional and rural Australia;
 - (d) to act as a coordinating body for regional and rural activities across the Divisions; and
 - (e) to report to each meeting of the Federal Executive on matters relevant to the activities of the Committee.
87. There shall be a meeting (the Ordinary Federal Council Meeting) of the Committee within seven (7) days before the commencement of each ordinary meeting of Federal Council and there shall be such other meetings of the Committee as the Chairman may from time to time designate.
88. (a) At each Ordinary Federal Council Meeting of the Committee, the Committee shall elect its own Chairman from among the members of the Committee.
- (b) A person holding the office of Federal Vice-President whilst holding that office shall not be eligible to be elected to the office of Chairman of the Federal Regional and Rural Committee.
89. A casual vacancy in the office of Chairman of the Federal Regional and Rural Committee shall be filled by the Regional and Rural Committee.
90. Should any member of this Committee be unable to attend any meeting they may, or failing appointment by the President of the Division concerned may, by writing under their hand addressed to the Federal President, appoint some other member of the Division to act as their proxy.

Part XX - Young Liberals

91. As an integrated part of the Organisation there shall be a Young Liberal Movement of Australia, open to persons between the ages of 16 and 30 years. The Movement shall be organised in Divisions. A Division of the Movement may be established within each Division of the Organisation. In addition, the Federal Council of the Young Liberal Movement may, by resolution, establish a Division of the Movement in a Territory, at such time and on such conditions as it sees fit.
92. Its objectives shall be:-
- (a) to promote the objectives, policy and platform of the Organisation amongst young people;
 - (b) to promote full citizenship with emphasis of a well-balanced personality;
 - (c) to give young people the opportunity to come together in a congenial atmosphere and learn by co-operation through combined activities;
 - (d) to give an early opportunity of learning and practising a Liberal way of life.
93. The management of the affairs of the Movement in any Division, including the organisation of clubs and branches, the operation of Councils and other regional bodies, and the representation of the Movement and its members on all or any of the controlling bodies of the Division shall be provided for by the Constitution of each Division of the Organisation.
94. There shall be a National Convention of the Young Liberal Movement of Australia which shall comprise such members of the Movement as elect to attend.
95. There shall be a Federal Council of the Young Liberal Movement of Australia which shall comprise:-
- (a) the Federal President of the Movement;
 - (b) the Federal Vice-President of the Movement;
 - (c) six representatives from each Division of the Movement.

The Federal Council of the Young Liberal Movement shall meet annually at or about the same time as the National Convention of the Young Liberal Movement of Australia.

96. There shall be a Federal Executive of the Young Liberal Movement of Australia which will comprise:-
- (a) a Federal President who shall be elected annually by the Federal Council of the Young Liberal Movement from persons who are still Young Liberals and who:-
 - (i) are current or former Divisional Young Liberal Presidents, or
 - (ii) have served on the Federal Young Liberal Executive for a period of at least one year;

- (b) a Federal Vice-President who shall be elected annually by the Federal Council of the Young Liberal Movement from persons who are still Young Liberals and who:-
 - (i) are current or former Divisional Young Liberal Presidents, or
 - (ii) have served on Divisional Young Liberal Executive(s) for a period of at least two (2) years and have been a member of the Federal Young Liberal Policy Committee for a period of at least one (1) year and have attended at least two (2) meetings of that Committee;
 - (c) the President or his nominee of each Division of the Movement.
97. There shall be a Federal Policy Committee of the Young Liberal Movement of Australia which shall comprise the Federal Executive of the Young Liberal Movement of Australia, one (1) additional representative from each Division of the Movement and such representation from the Territories as the Federal Council of the Young Liberal Movement shall determine provided that no member of a represented Territory may be a representative from any Division of the Movement.
98. The National Convention of the Young Liberal Movement of Australia shall be the supreme body for the expression of national policy of the Movement.
99. The functions of the Federal Executive of the Young Liberal Movement of Australia shall include:-
- (a) managing the national affairs of the Movement;
 - (b) convening the National Convention of the Young Liberal Movement;
 - (c) receiving and distributing information on the work and activities of Young Liberals in the respective Divisions;
 - (d) coordinating Young Liberal work and activity in the Divisions;
 - (e) filling casual vacancies in the offices of Federal President and Federal Vice-President by election from persons qualified under clause 96(a) and (b);
 - (f) appointing such other federal officers of the Movement as it deems necessary.
100. The functions of the Federal Policy Committee of the Young Liberal Movement of Australia shall include:-
- (a) advising the Federal Executive of the Young Liberal Movement on the agenda for National Convention;
 - (b) advising on policy matters, especially those affecting young people, having regard to the decisions of National Convention;
 - (c) formulating and expressing the National Policy of the Young Liberal Movement between National Conventions.

101. The Federal President of the Young Liberal Movement of Australia shall report in writing to each meeting of the Federal Council, Federal Executive and Federal Policy Committee of the Movement not less than seven (7) days prior to the commencement of such meeting.
102. Subject to this Constitution and with the approval of the Federal Executive of the Liberal Party of Australia, the Federal Council of the Young Liberal Movement of Australia shall make Federal Young Liberal Regulations for the guidance and control of the Movement's National Convention, Federal Executive and Federal Policy Committee and all their activities.

Part XXI - Selection of Candidates - Divisions

103. *(Clause 103, previously Clause 93, deleted by Resolution of the 1993 Federal Council and replaced by the following clause)*
- (a) The Constitution of each State Division shall provide for selection of candidates for the Senate and for Federal and State electorates within that Division, but subject always to the powers reserved to the Federal Council and the Federal Executive by this Constitution. If the Constitution of the Division provides that the selection of such candidates is conducted by some organ of the Division other than the Council (in Queensland the Convention), any such selection shall be reviewable by the relevant State Party forum provided for in the Constitution of the State Division and shall provide that upon such review the relevant State Party forum shall have the power to revoke the selection of any candidate for the Senate or any Federal electorate within the Division and select any candidate in place of any person whose candidature has been so revoked.
- (b) The Constitution of the Australian Capital Territory Division shall provide for the selection of candidates for the Senate and for Federal and House of Assembly electorates within the Australian Capital Territory Division, but subject always to the powers reserved to the Federal Council and the Federal Executive by this Constitution. If the Constitution of the Division provides that the selection of such candidates is conducted by some organ of the Division other than the Council, any such selection shall be reviewable by the relevant Territory Party forum provided for in the Constitution of the Division and shall provide that upon such review the relevant Party forum shall have the power to revoke the selection of any candidate for the Senate or any Federal electorate within the Division and select any candidate in place of any person whose candidature has been so revoked.
104. As far as it is practicable, candidates should be selected at least twelve (12) months before the normal time of the next election.
105. The method of selection of candidates for electorates not covered by any Division shall be prescribed from time to time by Federal Council or, in the case of urgency, by the Federal Executive.

Part XXII - Amendment of the Constitution

106. *(Clause 106 amended by Resolution of the 2009 Federal Council)*

This Constitution may be repealed or added to or amended by a two thirds majority of those present in person or by proxy at any meeting of the Federal Council at which due notice of any repeal, addition or amendment shall have been given in accordance with Rule 36, provided that a majority of the delegates from each of 4 Divisions vote for the amendment. An amendment shall come into effect immediately, unless the amending resolution provides otherwise.

Part XXIII - Definitions

107. Words importing the singular number shall include the plural number. Words importing the plural number shall include the singular number. Words importing the masculine gender shall include the feminine gender. Words importing the feminine gender shall include the masculine gender.

(Part XXIV inserted by Resolution of the 2009 Federal Council)

Part XXIV - Federal Campaign Committee

108. Within each Parliamentary term, at a time determined by the Federal President after consultation with the Federal Director and the Federal Parliamentary Leader, the President shall establish a Federal Campaign Committee.
109. The role of the Federal Campaign Committee shall be to provide overall direction and co-ordination of the federal campaign and to determine the campaign budget.
110. The Federal Campaign Committee shall comprise the President, one of the Federal Vice-Presidents (appointed by the Federal Executive), the Federal Treasurer, the Federal Director, the Federal Parliamentary Leader (or his or her nominee), the Leader of the Liberal Party in the Senate (or his or her nominee) and any other person agreed by the President and the Federal Parliamentary Leader.



Liberal Party of Australia

Cnr Blackall & Macquarie Streets, BARTON ACT 2600

PO Box 6004, KINGSTON ACT 2604

Tel. 02 6273 2564

Fax. 02 6273 1534

Email. libadm@liberal.org.au

www.liberal.org.au

