



***Constitution as amended by the
Alliance Conference
30th November 2003***

Alliance Constitution

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1. NAME

- 1.1. The name of the organisation shall be "The Alliance".
- 1.2. The Alliance shall be an unincorporated society operating as a political party for the purposes of the Electoral Act 1993.

2. OBJECTIVES

The Conference resolved that the Alliance Council will draft a statement of objectives for approval at the 2004 conference.

3. MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1. Any person of at least 13 years of age may make an application to join the Alliance. A person may apply to the Alliance either directly, or indirectly through an affiliated group.
- 3.2. Any person may be approved for membership by the Alliance Council who:
 - 3.2.1. Acknowledges the founding principles of the Alliance
 - 3.2.2. Works to support the Alliance objectives
 - 3.2.3. Acts within the Alliance Constitution
 - 3.2.4. Abides by lawful Alliance decisions made in accordance with the Alliance Constitution
 - 3.2.5. Pays the appropriate annual membership fee
 - 3.2.6. and who is not a member of another political party or any other organisation deemed by the Alliance Council to be incompatible with the Alliance.
- 3.3. New members shall be advised in writing by the Alliance Council of the acceptance of their Alliance membership. Commencement of membership for the purpose of clause 3.5 and 3.6 and 3.7 shall take effect from the date of application.
- 3.4. On acceptance, financial members shall be entitled to attend and participate in Alliance membership meetings to stand for Alliance internal office-holders positions.
- 3.5. After 3 months membership any member shall be entitled to vote in local candidate and list selections.
- 3.6. After 12 months membership any member shall be eligible for election into the candidate pool by four financial members of the Alliance. The Alliance Council, with the approval of 75% of its voting members, may waive any of the above requirements with respect to individual candidates.

- 3.7. The financial term of ordinary Alliance members is twelve months. Where a member is seven months overdue they shall be deemed to be un-financial and shall lose membership rights.
- 3.8. Any person whose membership application is deferred will be advised in writing and given the right to petition the next meeting of the Alliance Council. The Council may decline a membership application that the Council believes does not meet the criteria outlined in 3.2. The applicant shall be advised in writing of the decision. The applicant may appeal that decision at the next Alliance Council meeting where the decision shall be final.

4. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

- 4.1. Disciplinary action may be brought against any member who:
 - 4.1.1. Refuses to comply with the Constitution
 - 4.1.2. Improperly deals with any funds of the Alliance
 - 4.1.3. Breaches the Candidates Pledge
 - 4.1.4. Wilfully undermines the Alliance's objectives.
 - 4.1.5. Has been found to be guilty of a harassment complaint against them through the Alliance Harassment Procedures
 - 4.1.6. In any other way wilfully brings the Alliance or its members into public disrepute.
- 4.2. A complaint against a member for any of the above reasons shall first be communicated in writing to the President. The President shall, in the first instance, try to resolve the matter with the individuals concerned or refer the matter to the appropriate body for resolution.
- 4.3. If this procedure is inappropriate, or has not resolved the matter, the President shall refer the complaint to the Council Executive. The Council Executive may settle the matter itself or establish a grievance committee of between one and three members.
- 4.4. Any grievance committee established shall, throughout an enquiry, observe the principles of natural justice, and in particular:
 - 4.4.1. Must make available promptly to the parties involved full details of the nature of the enquiry and of allegations made; and
 - 4.4.2. Must give any party against whom allegations are made notice of at least 14 days of a hearing. Any member being interviewed by the grievance committee shall be entitled to have a representative of their choosing present.
- 4.5. The Grievance Committee shall communicate its findings and reasons for them in writing to the Council Executive and to the parties. It shall in the case of grievance recommend a remedy, or in the case of a charge, a penalty, if any. Such penalties may include a censure, suspension or expulsion from the Alliance.
- 4.6. The Council Executive shall by resolution adopt, modify or reject the recommendation. Any party to the proceedings may within 7 days of being notified of such resolution appeal to the Council against the

Council Executive's decision. The decision of the Council (or the Council Executive if not appealed) shall be final and binding on all members.

- 4.7. If a member facing a charge has to travel to appear before the Grievance Committee, he or she shall meet such costs.
- 4.8. If the Grievance Committee finds that any complaint or charge has been made maliciously, or that no case has been made out for it, the Council Executive may make the member/s bringing such complaint or charge, liable for all or part of the costs of the enquiry, including those of the member/s facing the charge, by resolution to that effect voted for by a majority of the members of the Council Executive.
- 4.9. Any party to the proceedings may, within 7 days of being notified of such resolution, lodge a written appeal to the Alliance Council against the Council Executive's decision. The appeal will be upheld unless 75% of the voting members present at an Alliance Council meeting support the Council Executive's decision.

5. AFFILIATED GROUPS/NETWORKS

- 5.1. The Alliance Council on behalf of the Alliance may approve the formation and affiliation of sector groups and networks which the Council considers will further the objectives of the Alliance as a result of the co-ordination and organisation of such groups.
- 5.2. Such affiliated groups and networks shall have such rights and responsibilities as may be determined by the Alliance Council on a case by case basis.
- 5.3. The Alliance Council shall annually review each group or network. Where the Alliance Council believes an affiliated group or network is unable to function effectively or further the objectives of the Alliance, the Alliance Council may make such decisions as necessary up to and including the disbanding the affiliated group or network. Any such decision shall be with the support of 75% of the members of the Alliance Council present.

6. ALLIANCE BRANCHES

- 6.1. A branch of the Alliance shall be approved by the Council upon recommendation by the appropriate Regional Committee. A Branch may represent members of a sector, or part of an electorate, and may cross electorate boundaries.
- 6.2. Branches shall elect annually, during March or April, officers to fulfil the following functions:
 - 6.2.1. Chairperson/Convenor
 - 6.2.2. Secretary
 - 6.2.3. Treasurer
 - 6.2.4. Membership Secretary

No one person shall fulfil more than two of the above functions.

- 6.3. Branches shall give all financial members of the Branch at least seven days written or electronic notice of any Branch Annual General Meeting, candidate selection meeting, or delegate selection meeting for Alliance National Conference or list conferences.
- 6.4. Branches shall allow all financial members of the Branch to attend, vote and fully participate in discussions and decisions at Branch meetings. Authorised members of the Alliance Council have the right to attend and address Branch meetings.
- 6.5. Where there is more than one Branch in an electorate, each Branch will be represented on an Electorate Committee which will make any decisions required to be made on an electorate boundary basis.
- 6.6. Branches shall allow financial members from outside the Branch boundaries to be members of the Branch. Such members will have all the rights and responsibilities of a resident member except they may not vote in local candidate selections and may only vote at Branch Annual General Meetings if they have been a financial member of the Branch for the three months prior to the Annual General Meeting. No member shall be an officeholder in more than one Branch.
- 6.7. Branches shall, where practicable, hold monthly meetings open to all financial members from February to December. If a Branch does not meet for a three month period, the Alliance General Secretary, in consultation with the Regional Representative, may require the Branch to meet within 30 days of notification. If the branch fails to meet within the 30 day period, The General Secretary, or their nominated representative, may organise a meeting of the Branch. The meeting must be notified in writing to all financial members at least seven days in advance.
- 6.8. Branches shall supply copies of meeting minutes, records and notices to the Regional Representative, Alliance General Secretary or their nominated agent upon request.
- 6.9. Branches shall regularly forward membership applications and fees to the national office, along with changes to current membership details.
- 6.10. Branches shall maintain an accurate record of Branch finances and meet their legal financial responsibilities and agreed financial responsibilities to the regional and national bodies of the Alliance.
- 6.11. Branches (or Electorate Committees, where there is more than one Branch within an electorate), have the right to be represented on the following Alliance bodies:
 - 6.11.1. Alliance Regional Committee:
One voting representative for every ten branch members or part thereof.
 - 6.11.2. Alliance Annual, Regional, Special and Candidate List Selection Conferences:

One delegate for every five branch members or part thereof up to a maximum of twenty delegates for national conferences and thirty delegates for regional conferences.

- 6.12. Delegate representation from electorates to Regional Conferences and representation to Regional Committees shall be determined by the number of financial members as of either 31 December or 30 June, whichever is the closest preceding date.
- 6.13. Branches shall have the right to submit policy, constitutional and other remits from branch meetings, for consideration at Alliance Regional Conferences.
- 6.14. Branches have the right to be represented on Alliance bodies subject to operating a functioning Branch committee and meeting relevant registration or other fees.

7. ALLIANCE REGIONAL COMMITTEES

- 7.1. Every region shall elect a Regional Committee based on regional boundaries set by the Alliance Council.
- 7.2. A Regional Committee shall comprise:
 - 7.2.1. The Regional Representative(s), who may convene and chair meetings of the committee and shall have one vote.
 - 7.2.2. A Deputy Regional Representative (non-voting unless otherwise qualified as a voting representative).
 - 7.2.3. One voting branch representative for every ten financial branch members or part thereof.
 - 7.2.4. One voting representative from each Alliance Network Group that has representation on the Alliance Council and is deemed by the Regional Committee to be active in the region.
 - 7.2.5. Officers to fulfil the functions of Secretary and Treasurer (non-voting unless otherwise qualified as a voting representative).
- 7.3. The Regional Representative(s), Deputy Regional Representative, Secretary and Treasurer should be elected annually prior to 30 April each year at a duly authorised meeting of the Regional Committee within the regional boundaries. Where any of the above positions become vacant in between regional conferences the positions shall be filled by election of the Regional Committee at the next meeting. The opening of nominations must be notified to Branches at least one month in advance of the election.
- 7.4. If a Regional Representative or Deputy Regional representative is unable to attend an Alliance Council meeting a Regional Committee may nominate, in writing to the General Secretary, another Regional Committee member to represent it at the Alliance Council meeting.
- 7.5. All members of a Regional Committee must be given at least seven days notice of any Regional Committee meeting. A special Regional Committee meeting may be called by the written request of over half the

committee members to the Regional Representative(s), who must call the meeting within two weeks of the request.

- 7.6. The Regional Committee is responsible for:
 - 7.6.1. Ensuring that each Branch has a functioning committee.
 - 7.6.2. Planning regionally based political, educational and organisational activity
 - 7.6.3. Discussing issues and giving guidance to the Regional Representative
 - 7.6.4. Meeting regional financial and organisational targets and obligations.
 - 7.6.5. Organising Regional Conferences and meetings.
- 7.7. Regional Committees should meet at least once every three months. If a Regional Committee has not met within a four month period the Council Executive, after consultation with the regional officers, may require the Regional Committee to meet within 30 days of notification. If the Regional Committee fails to meet within the 30 day period, the Council Executive may declare the committee non-functioning. In this case the Council Executive may instruct the General Secretary to organise new elections for regional officers, either by a special regional conference or by postal ballot of Branches, who will also be required to conduct new elections for their Regional Committee representatives.
- 7.8. Any national officer or their authorised nominee has the right to attend and address Regional Committee meetings.
- 8.9. Regional Committees shall meet their financial responsibilities, and make financial records available to Branches and national bodies.
- 8.10. A quorum of the Regional Committee shall be not less than 50% of voting representatives and representatives from not less than 50% of Branches.

8. ALLIANCE REGIONAL CONFERENCES

- 8.1. Delegated Regional Conferences shall be held annually, at least two months before the Annual Conference of the Alliance. The number and location of Regional Conferences in any year shall be determined by the Alliance Council and notified to Branches by April 30th each year.
- 8.2. Branches shall be represented at the regional conferences by one delegate for every five members or part thereof up to a maximum of thirty delegates.
- 8.3. Alliance Network Groups represented on the Alliance Council shall be represented at the Regional Conferences by one delegate for every ten members resident in the region or part thereof up to a maximum of ten delegates. Delegates shall reside within the conference boundaries as set by the Alliance Council.

- 8.4. The Alliance Council will determine the agenda for the regional conferences, in consultation with the Regional Committees for each region.
- 8.5. The Alliance Council, Regional Committees, Branch meetings and Alliance Network groups may submit remits to the General Secretary for consideration and voting at the Regional Conferences no later than two months before the date of the first Regional Conference.
- 8.6. Regional Conference agendas and proposals regarding decisions must be circulated to Branches no later than six weeks prior to the first Regional Conference with provisions for items of special business as approved by the Alliance Council or Regional Committees.
- 8.7. Decision Making:
 - 8.7.1. Voting will take place by accredited delegates present, each of whom has one vote.
 - 8.7.2. A report of voting at each Regional Conference shall be tabled at the next Alliance Council meeting following the final Regional Conference.
 - 8.7.3. Any other resolution passed by a majority of delegates across all the conferences must be either adopted by the next Alliance Council or placed on the agenda for voting at the next Alliance Annual Conference.
 - 8.7.4. A quorum of the Regional Conferences shall be not less than 50% of registered conference delegates. That quorum shall include at least one delegate from not less than 50% of constituent bodies.

9. ROLE OF ALLIANCE CONFERENCE

- 9.1. Authority of Conference:
 - 9.1.1. The Alliance conference is the supreme decision-making body of the Alliance. Conference decisions will be forwarded to the Alliance Council for action.
 - 9.1.2. Vote on policy remits
 - 9.1.3. Vote on constitutional remits
 - 9.1.4. Approve Council reports
 - 9.1.5. Approve pre-election policy platform
 - 9.1.6. Approve any Coalition Government agreements
 - 9.1.7. Elect President
 - 9.1.8. Elect Leader
 - 9.1.9. Elect Deputy Leader(s)
 - 9.1.10. Elect members to the Alliance Council
 - 9.1.11. Elect Alliance spokespeople
 - 9.1.12. Any other matter as approved by the Alliance Council
- 9.2. The Alliance Conference shall be held, nationally or regionally, at least once in each calendar year.
- 9.3. Voting Representation:
 - 9.3.1. Alliance Officers
President, Leader, Deputy Leader(s)

9.3.2. Branches:

One delegates for every five members. Delegate representation shall be determined by the number of financial members as of 6 weeks prior to the conference

9.4. Decision Making:

9.4.1. All resolutions shall be determined by accredited voting delegates present, each of whom has one vote.

9.4.2. All Conference decisions shall be made by a simple majority vote of those voting representatives present.

9.4.3. Where conference delegates are required to elect office holders a Single Transferable Voting system as approved by the Alliance Council shall be used.

9.4.4. The Alliance Conference agenda and proposals regarding decisions must be circulated no later than 6 weeks prior, with provisions for items of special business as approved by the Alliance Council or Council Executive.

9.4.5. Nominations for the positions of Leader, Deputy Leader(s), President, Policy Committee Representatives and Conference elected Councillors shall be closed and circulated to all constituent bodies six weeks prior to the conference, unless the Council or Council Executive agrees to an extension of the nomination deadline.

9.4.6. A quorum of the Conference shall be not less than 50% of those duly appointed to attend and registered conference delegates. That quorum shall include at least one delegate from not less than 50% of branches.

10. ROLE OF ALLIANCE COUNCIL

10.1. Authority of the Council:

10.1.1. Set the national budget

10.1.2. Set party, regional, network, electorate, and membership fees

10.1.3. Confirm constitutional decisions

10.1.4. Establish and appoint members to Council sub-committees

10.1.5. Determine job description of President and other officers

10.1.6. Approve reports and work of all Alliance bodies

10.1.7. Oversee the process of coalition negotiations and make recommendations to the Alliance Conference on coalition formation

10.1.8. Approve the formation of Alliance bodies

10.1.9. Suspend membership of individuals, Alliance bodies in accordance with the rules of the constitution

10.1.10. Elect candidates into the candidate pool

- 10.1.11. Confirm Cabinet Minister appointments by secret ballot on nomination of the Alliance Leader.
- 10.1.12. Act in accordance with the Alliance constitution
- 10.2. Between Alliance Conferences the Alliance Council has delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of the Alliance organisation.
- 10.3. The Alliance Council shall meet at least 4 times per year.
- 10.4. Alliance Council membership shall be:
 - 10.4.1. President
 - 10.4.2. Leader
 - 10.4.3. Deputy Leader(s)
 - 10.4.4. Two Policy Co-ordinators
 - 10.4.5. Regional Representatives or nominated Regional Committee representatives
 - 10.4.6. Four Conference elected members
 - 10.4.7. Affiliated group representatives, as determined by the Council
 - 10.4.8. Members of Parliament who do not hold other positions on the Council (non-voting)
 - 10.4.9. General Secretary (non-voting)
- 10.5. Decision Making:
 - 10.5.1. All Council members, except non-voting MPs and the General Secretary, shall have full participation and rights and receive one vote each.
 - 10.5.2. Council decisions shall be made by consensus but, where appropriate, decisions shall be made by a majority vote of councillors present.
 - 10.5.3. Election of nominees into the candidate pool shall be made by a 75% or more vote.
 - 10.5.4. Where a vote is taken on an election of officers the Single Transferable Voting System as approved by the Alliance Council will be used to determine the successful candidate.

11. COUNCIL EXECUTIVE

- 11.1. The Council Executive shall be a sub-committee of the Alliance Council and act in accordance with authority as delegated by the Alliance Council. All actions of the Council Executive must be in accordance with previous decisions of the Alliance Council and must be reported to and ratified by the Alliance Council.
- 11.2. The members of the Council Executive shall include:
 - 11.2.1. President who shall convene and chair Council Executive meetings
 - 11.2.2. Leader
 - 11.2.3. Deputy Leader(s)
 - 11.2.4. Three representatives elected by the Alliance Council
 - 11.2.5. General Secretary (non-voting)

11.3. Decision Making:

- 11.3.1. The Council Executive shall endeavour to make decisions by consensus
- 11.3.2. Where a vote is taken on a resolution it shall pass by a majority of voting members present.

12. CAUCUS

12.1. The parliamentary caucus shall determine the management of Alliance parliamentary work and activities to advance the Alliance Objectives in accordance with Alliance Council decisions.

12.2. The members of the parliamentary caucus shall include:

- 12.2.1. Alliance Leader who shall convene and chair caucus meetings
- 12.2.2. Alliance Members of Parliament
- 12.2.3. Alliance President
- 12.2.4. Alliance General Secretary
- 12.2.5. Two representatives elected by the Alliance Council

13. POLICY PROCESS

Two Policy Co-ordinators were elected at the 2002 Conference to co-ordinate policy development.

13.1. Two policy Co-ordinators shall be elected to the Alliance Council by the Alliance Conference.

14. CANDIDATE SELECTION

15.1 Electorate Selection process

15.1.1 Eligibility for Constituency Candidates:

15.1.1.1 All nominees for electorate seats shall be nominated into the candidate pool by four financial members of the Alliance.

15.1.1.2 Each nominee into the candidate pool shall state the electorate for which they intend to stand.

15.1.1.3 A nominee shall be eligible to stand for selection as a parliamentary candidate for that electorate once they have received 75% or more votes of members of the National Council.

15.1.2 **Uncontested Selection Meeting:**

15.1.2.1 A date for any selection shall be set by the National Council in consultation with the local, regional and electorate committees.

- 15.1.2.2 In the event of an uncontested election, the local members present at such a meeting shall endorse the sole nominee by secret ballot vote.
- 15.1.2.3 Each party member, resident in the electorate, shall be advised no later than seven days prior to the meeting.
- 15.1.2.4 Each eligible Alliance member present shall receive one vote.
- 15.1.2.5 The nominee shall be declared as the parliamentary candidate by simple majority of votes cast.
- 15.1.2.6 The candidate shall automatically be eligible for the party list.

15.1.3 Contested Selection Meeting:

- 15.1.3.1 A date for any selection shall be set by the National Council in consultation with the local, regional and electorate committees.
- 15.1.3.2 Each party member, resident in the electorate, shall be advised no later than seven days prior to the meeting.
- 15.1.3.3 In the case of where there are two or more nominees, the successful candidate shall be selected by a selection panel.
- 15.1.3.4 The Chair of this panel shall be appointed by the National Council.
- 15.1.3.5 The panel shall include two regional representatives selected by the local regional committee.
- 15.1.3.6 The local electorate members shall select three panel members where there are up to 29 members in attendance at the selection meeting. Where there are 30 – 39 members present, the meeting may select an additional panel member. Where there are 40 or more members present, the meeting may select a further panel member, making a maximum of five local panel members in total.
- 15.1.3.7 A secret ballot of all eligible Alliance members present at the selection meeting shall be conducted in a preferential vote.
- 15.1.3.7 The result of the preferential vote from the meeting shall be tabled to the selection panel prior to its vote on the candidate.
- 15.1.3.8 All members of the selection panel shall receive one vote each.

- 15.1.3.9 Where a selection panel has a tied vote, the preferential vote from the meeting shall act as a casting vote.
- 15.1.3.10 The nominee who receives a majority vote of the panel shall be declared the successful candidate for the electorate.
- 15.1.3.11 The candidate shall automatically be eligible for the party list.

15.2 List Selection Process

15.2.1 Candidate Pool:

- 15.2.1.1 Any financial member nominated by four financial members of the Alliance may be nominated into the candidate pool.
- 15.2.1.2 A nominee is elected into the candidate pool by receiving 75% or more votes by Council members.

15.2.2 Eligibility for Party List:

- 15.2.2.1 All electorate candidates are eligible to stand for the Party List.
- 15.2.2.2 Non-electorate candidates can only be eligible by a special concession by the Council.

15.2.3 Regional List Caucuses:

- 15.2.3.1 Electorates shall break into Regional List Caucuses on the first day of the National Conference in election year.
- 15.2.3.2 There are four list regional caucuses and a Maori seats caucus.
- Auckland
 - Upper North Island (Northland, Western and Bay of Plenty)
 - Lower North Island (Central Districts and Wellington)
 - South Island
 - Maori Seats
- 15.2.3.3 Each Regional List Caucus shall elect three of their candidates into a band of three and a further three candidates into a second band of three. The remaining candidates shall not be ranked. The Leader and Deputy-Leader(s) shall not be included in this process.
- 15.2.3.4 Each electorate shall be represented by the National Conference.
- 15.2.3.5 Each delegate present shall receive one vote.

15.2.3.6 Each Regional List Caucus shall also elect one representative for the National List Committee.

15.2.4 National List Committee:

15.2.4.1 The Leader shall chair the Committee.

15.2.4.2 Each Regional List Caucus shall have one member each, making five in total.

15.2.4.3 The National Council shall elect a further three representatives to the List Committee. The Council shall make such nominations as to ensure that the membership of the Committee, as a whole, takes into account gender as well as the merit of individual panel members.

15.2.4.4 No parliamentary candidate for the list, except the Leader, may be eligible for membership of the List Committee.

15.2.4.5 The List Committee shall meet at the National Conference.

15.2.4.6 List Committee shall interview top three candidates from each regional caucus and any other candidates as appropriate.

15.2.4.7 The Committee shall rank candidates, placing the Leader at number one, Deputy Leader(s) at number two (and three) and rank other candidates based on merit. However, the Committee shall take into account Regional List Caucus rankings, gender, ethnicity, regional considerations and any other criteria set by the National Council.

15.2.4.8 All nine members on the Committee shall receive one vote each.

15.2.4.9 The Committee shall recommend a final list to the Conference for ratification.

15.2.5 Early election List Selection Process

15.2.5.1 Where an early election is called or the if Alliance Council decides that a party list may need to be submitted before the Alliance Conference can meet the Council may decide to use the following process as an alternative to the process outlined in sections 15.2.3 and 15.2.4

15.2.5.2 A nine member List Committee shall recommend the Candidate List to the National Council for its endorsement.

15.2.5.3 The List committee members shall be the Leader (who shall chair the committee); three members elected by the National Council; and five additional members selected to

represent the electorates - one member for the Maori seats; one member for the northern North island (excluding Auckland); one member for Auckland; one member for the southern North Island and one member for the South Island.

- 15.2.5.4 No nominee for the List Committee, except for the Leader, shall be a candidate for the Party List, but they may be an electorate candidate. Nominees must be members of the Alliance.
- 15.2.5.5 The National Council shall determine the boundaries of each List area and supervise the selection of nominees to the list committee.
- 15.2.5.6 The General Secretary shall advise all parliamentary candidates in the candidate pool of their eligibility and request that they submit a one page CV for the List committee's consideration.
- 15.2.5.7 The List committee shall meet and complete its recommendations on a date determined by the National Council.
- 15.2.5.8 The List Committee may interview any candidate as appropriate.
- 15.2.5.9 The List Committee shall rank candidates placing the Leader at No 1 and the Deputy Leader at No 2 and rank other candidates on merit. However the List committee shall take into account gender, ethnicity, regional considerations and any other criteria set by the National Council.
- 15.2.5.10 All nine members on the List committee shall receive one vote each. In event of equality of voting the chair shall have a casting vote in addition to their deliberative vote.
- 15.2.5.11 The List Committee shall recommend a final Party List to the National Council for ratification.

15. ALLIANCE LEADERSHIP AND OFFICERS

- 15.1. The Leader of the Alliance shall be elected by a majority vote at the Alliance Conference by individual secret ballot of the delegates present and shall be Leader of the Parliamentary Caucus.
- 15.2. The Deputy Leader(s) shall be elected by majority votes at the Alliance Conference by individual secret ballot of the delegates present.
- 15.3. The Alliance President shall be elected by a majority vote at the Alliance Conference by individual secret ballot of the delegates present. The President shall be elected each year at the Alliance Conference. A current Member of Parliament cannot stand for election as Alliance President.

15.4. If any extraordinary vacancy arises for the positions of Leader, Deputy Leader(s) or President then the Alliance Council shall fill the vacancy at its next meeting by a majority vote of representatives until the following Alliance Conference.

15.5. The General Secretary shall circulate to Regional Committees, Branches and Sector Networks a call for nominations for the positions of Leader, Deputy Leader(s), President, Policy Co-ordinators and Conference elected Councillors at least three months before the annual conference. Any branch may nominate an Alliance member for the positions of Leader, Deputy Leader(s), President or other conference elected positions. Nominations shall be closed and circulated to all constituent bodies six weeks prior to the conference, unless the Council agrees to an extension of the nomination deadline.

15.6. No MP shall be eligible to be elected for any conference elected position except for the position of Leader or Deputy Leader(s).

15.7. The Alliance General Secretary shall be elected by a majority vote of representatives on the Alliance Council.

16. Dissolution Clause

The Alliance Council, at a meeting called in accordance with the Standing Orders, may resolve that the Alliance be dissolved as from the date to be named in the resolution, and may also by such resolution direct the method of disposing of the assets and property of the Alliance after its dissolution. Upon the resolution being confirmed at a subsequent Alliance Conference meeting called for the purpose and held not earlier than thirty days after the date on which the first resolution was passed the Alliance shall be dissolved. A notice of the resolution and its confirmation shall be sent to the Electoral Commission and the Commissioner of Inland Revenue. The property of the Alliance shall upon dissolution be transferred to such political or other organisations having objects similar to those of the Alliance within New Zealand as the meeting of dissolution shall determine or in default as may be determined by the High Court of New Zealand on the application of the Alliance Council.