

# LDA Broad Objectives and Steering Committee composition for 2025

October, 2024

## Purpose

- Agree LDA broad 2025 objectives
- Agree composition of LDA Steering Ctte for 2025
- Agree a mandate for 2025 for communication to and approval by Local Parties

## Principles

- Stepping stone while work continues on:
  - The evolution of LDA's internal structure
  - Formalisation of where LDA sits in the Federal Party

## 2025 Broad Objectives

Set the strategic direction for LDA and its constituent parts and run global initiatives including:

- Concluding long-term strategy for structure of LDA and continuing to work with Federal Party on LDA's position in the federal party structures:
  - Future Group to focus on LDA structure, governance, objectives and responsibilities and operating protocols and to consult as appropriate with the LDA constituent parts concerning the evolution of LDA's internal structure
  - Steering Ctte focus on continuing to lay the groundwork and build relationships within the Federal Party to formalise LDA's constitutional/governance standing

- Establish and communicate LDA “offer” to the Federal Party
- Global Campaigning
- Relationship with Parliamentarians and Federal Party
- Policy
- Strategic approach to cross-cutting operational issues
- Capitalising on shared infrastructure opportunities
- Agree protocols covering working relationships amongst Steering Committee members

## Steering Committee

- Composition - up to **9** members
  - **6** members appointed by local party members (2 LDE, 2 LDF, 2LDO)
    - The three party chairs will be members of the steering committee, with the option of appointing a delegated representative instead who must be a member of the local party executive - **3**
    - The other delegate will be appointed by each local party’s executive. - **3**
    - Local parties should strive to meet the principles of gender balance. Local parties should aim to have 50% of appointees from each gender
  - Up to **3** additional members may be appointed with the approval of a simple majority of the then steering committee members. These appointments to be focused on areas/ initiatives deemed to be of critical importance by the Steering Committee. Principles of gender balance set out above shall apply to additional members appointed
- Roles
  - The Chair to be elected annually at the 1st meeting by a simple majority of steering committee members for an annual term. No individual may hold this position for more than 3 full annual consecutive terms and shall not be eligible for re-election as Chair for two terms after leaving Office
  - The Secretary to be elected annually at the 1st meeting by a simple majority of steering committee members
  - Other roles to be agreed by steering committee dependent upon 2025 LDA objectives
- The Steering Committee will elect, by a simple majority of the steering committee members ,official appointments to any Federal Committee e.g. FIRC, FPDC. Those representatives will usually be members of the Steering Committee, but are not required to be

- Decision making to be consensus based. If a vote is required at a meeting then any resolution will be passed by a simple majority of those present
- Quorum for meeting  $\frac{2}{3}$ 's of committee members, including at least one member from each local party. A meeting may continue without a quorum if no member present objects
- Annual Term starting January 1st 2025
- Any local party (LDF, LDO or LDE) can withdraw from the steering committee for a period of time (to be specified) following a resolution of their executive to that effect by giving 30 days notice of their withdrawal. On a withdrawal all steering committee members that are members of the withdrawing party will cease to be members of the steering committee until the withdrawing party rejoins the steering committee. That will include resigning as Steering Committee Chair or Secretary and stepping down from any LDA appointed positions on any Federal Committee.

## Local Parties

- Each local party will be solely responsible for activities taking place within their geographic area using their knowledge of local conditions and priorities. They may choose to delegate responsibility of an activity or activities to LDA
- If a local party does not feel that projects proposed by the LDA Steering Committee are to their benefit, then they are free to work independently, whilst remaining within the overall framework of the Party's values and principles

## Next Steps

- Proposal and Resolution distributed to Local Parties - **1st November**
- Local Parties present resolution at AGM - **by end November**
- New Local Party Executives appoint their new Steering Committee Members - **at their January 2025 meetings**
- New Steering Committee elects Chair and Secretary - at their first meeting in **January 2025**

## Resolution for LDA Local Party AGM's

\*\*\*\*\* (Name) Local Party thanks the members of the Liberal Democrats Abroad Steering Committee for their work in responding to the mandate agreed in October 2021 and renewed at subsequent Local Party AGMs.

This Annual General Meeting agrees to the adoption of the new mandate as described in the attached LDA Broad Objectives and Steering Committee composition for 2025 proposal and to the appointment of Steering Committee members as requested by its Executive (as elected to serve from 1 January 2025).