

# Constitution of An Rabharta Glas - Green Left

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## Section 1: Name & Principles

1. The name shall be “An Rabharta Glas – Green Left,” hereinafter referred to as the Party.
  - 1.1. The Party may also be referred to in short form as ‘Green Left’, by the initials “G.L.” or by the Irish translation “An Rabharta Glas” depending on the context.
2. The Party maintains that a sustainable and just society is incompatible with a capitalist economic system, based as it is on the exploitation of people and heedless extraction from the environment, with the only consistent goal being that of private profit. The Party will work towards an alternative, eco-socialist economic system based on emancipated labour, and a society organised around co-operation, mutual aid, and public endeavour rather than around competition and profit.
  - 2.1. In working towards this, the Party will make every effort to ameliorate the deprivations – material and non-material – experienced by those left most vulnerable by the current form of economic and social organisation. The Party recognises the need for an intersectional, anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist approach to all policy matters, and that there is no climate justice without social justice, and vice-versa.
  - 2.2. The Party recognises that certain groups within society face greater challenges & disadvantages based non-exhaustively on gender identity, marital status, family status, age, disability, sexual orientation, race or ethnicity, religion, membership of the Traveller community, geographical location, medical status, citizenship, language. To this end, the Party will work to elevate voices from these communities to realise a more equitable society. The Party recognises that, in society as much as the environment, diversity means strength and durability.
  - 2.3. The Party recognises that heretofore movements sharing these aims and similar have failed in giving voice to rural communities and aims to be the Party of rural people and communities that campaign for climate, economic and social justice.
  - 2.4. The Party endeavours to secure the status of the Irish language as a living language and ensure that all people on our island have the right to use it.
  - 2.5. The Party recognises the importance of Irish Sign Language, and sign languages used in Northern Ireland, and seeks to promote its usage in wider Irish society.
3. The Party – recognising itself as playing a role in broader movements – will work towards these goals through contesting elections, in taking part in community and labour politics,

and engaging in direct action in the form of protests, strikes and demonstrations.

- 3.1. The Party will draft policy documents and create resources based on evidence, to illustrate the choices available to society and to demonstrate how the Party's goals can be coherently and plausibly achieved.
4. The Party believes that co-operation among other political parties, independents, campaign groups and activists will lead to greater success in achieving the Party's aim of promoting climate, social and economic justice.
  - 4.1. Electorally, the Party believes in co-operation among progressive groups & candidates and will work with them to establish strategies in each electoral area in order to maximise progressive representation in electoral politics.
  - 4.2. The Party will create policy, create resources, facilitate discussion and actively work with and organise those inside & outside of other political parties in order to implement its policy goals.
5. The Party shall raise funds and apply its funds for the following purposes:
  - 5.1. the administration of the Party;
  - 5.2. to support Party candidates in local, national and European elections;
  - 5.3. any purposes relevant to the achievement of its goals, including the support of non-Party electoral candidates where deemed appropriate by Executive; and
  - 5.4. the support of non-electoral political activities and charitable organisations.
6. The Party will not accept sponsorship or funding from sources that directly conflict with its principles or with achieving its objectives.

## Section 2: Membership

7. Membership of the Party shall be open to all persons who:

- 7.1. are resident in or are citizens of Ireland or Northern Ireland;
- 7.2. are aged sixteen or older;
- 7.3. to the principles, aims & objectives of the Party; and
- 7.4. are not members of political parties or organisations ancillary or subsidiary thereto declared by the Party or the National Executive in pursuance of Party policy to be ineligible for membership of the Party.

8. Membership shall be granted at the discretion of the National Executive. Those who wish to apply to be members of the Party shall apply in the manner prescribed by the National Executive, and the National Executive shall have the right to reject any application for membership.

9. Members shall be entitled:

- 9.1. to vote at general meetings;
- 9.2. to put themselves forward for selection as a Party candidate in elections;
- 9.3. to be elected to the Party's National Executive.

10. It shall be a condition of membership that members disclose their membership of any other political party to the Party in the manner prescribed by National Executive.

11. Members who wish to become members of other parties, while retaining membership of the Party, shall apply to the National Executive for permission in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the National Executive. Membership of another party without the prior authorisation of the National Executive shall immediately make that member's membership void.

12. All members shall be subject to a six-month probationary period, during which time they shall not be entitled to vote, be selected as Party candidates, or run for the National Executive.

12.1. The National Executive may waive any or all probationary restrictions at their discretion.

12.2. Members may apply to the National Executive to have their probationary period waived.

13. Subject always to Rules and Procedures the National Executive:

- 13.1. shall have the power to suspend the membership, candidacy, officership or any other power or privilege of any member; and
  - 13.2. shall have the power to expel any member.
14. The National Executive shall have the power to suspend the membership, candidacy, officership or any other power or privilege of any member, both as a matter of Party Discipline and for the proper carrying out of any investigatory or disciplinary process.
  15. The National Executive shall have the power to suspend any member for the purposes of investigation where the person has been alleged to have brought the Party into disrepute.
  16. No suspension or expulsion shall be valid unless approved by a vote tabled at a meeting of the National Executive.
    - 16.1. Should the National Executive vote to suspend or expel a member, they shall inform the member immediately.
    - 16.2. There shall be an appeal mechanism provided to members who are subject to any decisions made under this section.
    - 16.3. The Party shall maintain a policy on Rules & Procedures relating to disciplinary measures and the structure of relevant appeals processes.
    - 16.4. The Party shall keep its Rule and Procedures relating to Party Discipline under regular review.

## Section 3: Organisation

17. The Party membership shall be organised into groups based on the boundaries of parliamentary constituencies in Ireland and Northern Ireland, hereinafter referred to as 'Constituency Groups'. Members resident outside these two jurisdictions may organise in International Constituency groups.
18. Party members may also opt to organise based on alternative criteria. These may be different geographic, demographic (e.g., young members, LGBTQ+ members, non-Irish members) or thematic ties (e.g., members campaigning for animal welfare, members who are trade unionists etc.). If a group of members wish to organise on an alternative criterion, they must submit a request to the Party's National Executive to be recognised as official sub-groups of the Party.
19. A National Executive of the Party shall act as the Party's primary decision-making body and shall be empowered to make binding financial, management and strategic decisions on behalf of the Party. It shall consist of the following members:
  - 19.1. The Party Leader
  - 19.2. The Party Chairperson
  - 19.3. Nine Ordinary Members, elected at the Party's Annual General Meeting.
20. The nine Ordinary Members shall be elected by full members of the Party using proportional representation, single-transferable vote (otherwise known as PR STV).
21. The Party will strive to have a balanced National Executive. This may include gender quotas, geographic quotas, quotas based on limiting numbers of elected representatives etc. These quotas shall be determined in the Party's Rules and Procedures. Should any quotas be in place, members must be informed of them prior to the National Executive elections. The results of elections must reflect these quotas; the process for this shall be governed by the Party's Rules and Procedures.
22. The quorum for any meeting of the National Executive shall be one half of the total voting members (rounded up if necessary).
23. There must be a member of the Party resident in Northern Ireland on the National Executive. The method of their election shall be governed by the Party's Rules and Procedures.
24. No Ordinary Member may serve on the National Executive for more than four out of every six years. Time spent serving on National Executive as Party Leader or, Cathaoirleach, shall not be considered reckonable for the above.

25. Ordinary Members elected or co-opted to the National Executive shall serve a term of one year, where a year is determined to be the time between Annual General Meetings. If a member is co-opted midway through a term, their term will end at the next set of National Executive elections.
26. The Deputy Leader, Treasurer and General Secretary shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the National Executive in a non-voting capacity.
27. The National Executive shall meet at least once in each calendar month. All full meetings of the National Executive shall require five working days' notice, and ordinarily be carried out according to an annual schedule provided by the Chairperson. All full meetings of the National Executive shall ordinarily have an appropriate physical venue, accessible to all, and be digitally accessible for members unable to attend physically.
28. The Party Leader, Chairperson or any two voting members of the National Executive may convene ad-hoc meetings between full scheduled meetings to manage Party business. All members of the National Executive must be informed of the timings and agenda for these meetings at least 24 hours in advance, and the meeting must be quorate in accordance with section 22 to have standing. Decisions taken in all ad-hoc meetings shall be reported to all members of the National Executive, the Party Treasurer, and General Secretary on the same day as the meeting.
29. Decisions made by the National Executive will require a simple majority of those present to pass.
30. The National Executive may invite any member, including the chair of any demographic group, as referred to under clause 17, to attend all or part of any National Executive meeting it deems relevant.
31. The Party Leader shall act as chief spokesperson for the Party.
  - 31.1. They shall be responsible for achieving the Party's political objectives, with direction from the Party's National Executive. The Party Leader shall be accountable to the National Executive and bound by its decisions.
  - 31.2. The Party Leader shall be elected by all full members of the Party using PR STV. This vote shall be done by a suitable, accessible method, such as by paper postal ballot or by a digital poll of members, provided it is secure.
  - 31.3. The term of office for the Party Leader shall ordinarily last five years, with a

maximum consecutive term of ten years. A Leadership election shall be called within the eight months following a general (Dáil) election. Should the Party Leader resign their position, or membership of the Party, without a general election taking place, a Leadership election will then be held as soon as feasibly possible, and no later than three months after their resignation. The Deputy Leader shall perform the role of the Party Leader in the interim period, if required, in the event of a resignation.

31.4. The member holding the role of Party Leader may not simultaneously hold a role as an elected member of the National Executive or hold the role of Treasurer or General Secretary.

32. The Deputy Leader shall perform the roles of Party Leader when the Leader is unable to fulfil their functions.

32.1. The Deputy Leader shall be elected by all full members of the Party using PR-STV. This vote should be held at the first Annual General Meeting following the election of the Party Leader. Members who cannot attend the AGM shall be entitled to request a postal or digital ballot by contacting the National Executive, however, voting will otherwise be done by an in-person secret ballot.

32.2. The term of office for the Deputy Leader shall ordinarily last five years, with a maximum consecutive term of ten years. The election of the Deputy Leader should take place at the first AGM following the election of a Party Leader, provided adequate time is given to allow for candidates to come forward, members to apply for absentee ballots etc. ('adequate time' here understood to be at least two months between the conclusion of the Leadership election and the election of the Deputy Leader). Should the Deputy Leader resign their position, or membership of the Party, during their term, a Deputy Leadership election will then be held as soon as feasibly possible, and no later than three months after their resignation.

32.3. The member holding the role of Deputy Leader may not simultaneously hold a role as an elected member of the National Executive, or hold the role of Treasurer or General Secretary.

33. The Party Chairperson, also known as the Party's Cathaoirleach, shall be responsible for chairing meetings of the National Executive, as well as the Party's Annual General Meeting.

33.1. The method of electing the Chairperson shall be PR-STV. This vote shall be done

by a suitable, accessible method, such as by paper postal ballot or by a digital poll of all full members, provided it is secure.

- 33.2. The term of office for the Chairperson shall ordinarily last three years, with a maximum consecutive term of nine years. Nominations for the position shall open at least three months before the end of the Chairperson's term, and at most six months before then.
  - 33.3. Should the Chairperson resign their position, or membership of the Party, during their term, an election for a new Chairperson will then be held as soon as feasibly possible, and no later than three months after their resignation.
  - 33.4. The Chairperson shall be responsible for convening meetings of the National Executive, as well as setting the agenda for National Executive meetings and ensuring the proper communication and accessibility of National Executive meetings, documents and business to all participants.
  - 33.5. The Chairperson shall also act as the Party's internal auditor, meaning that they shall be responsible for overseeing the Party's finances, in cooperation with the Treasurer.
  - 33.6. The Chairperson may not also hold the positions of Party Leader or Deputy Leader in addition to their role as Chairperson, except in an acting capacity, as described in clause 31(3).
  - 33.7. The member holding the role of Chairperson may not simultaneously hold a role as an elected member of the National Executive, or hold the role of Treasurer or General Secretary.
34. The National Executive shall be responsible for the establishment of subcommittees of itself (henceforth "Executive Subcommittees"), and the appointment of a chair of each. The Executive Subcommittees shall consist of:
- 34.1. Membership Subcommittee;
  - 34.2. Election Task Force;
  - 34.3. Volunteer Coordination Subcommittee;
  - 34.4. Policy Subcommittee;
  - 34.5. Rules and Procedures Subcommittee; and
  - 34.6. any other Executive Subcommittee the National Executive deems necessary.
35. The Chairperson shall be responsible for overseeing the Executive Subcommittees.

Executive Subcommittees shall be accountable to the Chairperson and shall submit a monthly report to the Chairperson, which shall be circulated to the National Executive members.

36. The National Executive, may, on recommendation from the Chairperson, change the chair of any Executive Subcommittee, or make adjustments to the composition of the Executive Subcommittee, as it sees fit.

36.1. This power includes the creation or dissolution of any Executive Subcommittee defined under Section 32 above.

36.2. In the event that any named Executive Subcommittee is dissolved by the National Executive, the named Executive Subcommittee shall be reconstituted within 8 weeks.

37. The National Executive may invite the chair of any Executive Subcommittee to attend all or part of any National Executive meeting it deems relevant to said chair's role.

38. The conduct of Executive Subcommittees shall be governed by the Party's Rules and Procedures.

39. A General Secretary, funding depending, may be hired to assist with the day-to day running of the Party, as well as performing administrative tasks associated with the operation of the Party's offices.

40. The General Secretary shall be responsible for minuting meetings of the National Executive.

41. If the Party cannot afford to pay a full-time General Secretary a living wage, the Party may decide to appoint a volunteer, unwaged, General Secretary. This decision shall be made by vote by the members at a General Meeting. If the Party approves the creation of a position of a volunteer General Secretary, then their term of office shall ordinarily be one year, or until a point at which the Party can afford to hire a paid General Secretary for at least twelve months, whichever situation occurs first. Candidates may self-nominate, and a candidate shall be appointed by the National Executive at their first meeting after the General Meeting.

42. The General Secretary (whether paid or volunteer) shall be accountable to the National Executive, and shall operate in accordance with the direction of the National Executive.

43. The member holding the role of General Secretary may not simultaneously hold a role as

an elected member of the National Executive.

44. Members of the National Executive may resign their position by sending their resignation to the Chairperson. The National Executive may co-opt an interim member of the National Committee, or the responsibilities of the vacated role may be adopted by another member of the committee in addition to their existing role, until an election can take place at the next general meeting.

44.1. In the event that both the Party Leader and the Deputy Leader resign, the Chairperson may fill the role of Party Leader in an acting capacity, until an election can take place. If the Chairperson is then elected as Leader of the Party, they must vacate their position as Chairperson. However, they may remain in that position in an acting capacity, until a successor can be elected.

45. Members of the Party may call for a motion of no confidence against a member of the National Executive, the Party Chairperson, the Party Leader or Deputy Leader by sending such a motion to the Chairperson, or to Party Leader in the event a motion of no confidence being brought is against the Chairperson. To have standing, the motion must be endorsed by at least 50 full members or 25% of the total membership, whichever is larger. An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) shall then be called to facilitate the vote of no confidence in the individual requiring a simple majority of those voting.

45.1. If the vote passes, meaning that a simple majority of those voting support the motion of no confidence in the member, then that member shall resign their position.

46. Members of the Party may call for a motion of no confidence against a member of the Parliamentary Party or elected representative by sending such a motion to the Chairperson. To have standing, the motion must be endorsed by at least 50 full members or 25% of the total membership, whichever is larger. An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) shall then be called to facilitate the vote of no confidence in the individual requiring a simple majority of those voting.

46.1. If the vote passes, meaning that a simple majority of those voting support the motion of no confidence in the member, then that member shall be suspended for a period of not less than 3 months - the exact period and terms of the suspension to be determined by the Party's Disciplinary Panel.

47. If a motion of no confidence is brought against a member under clause 45 or 46 and fails, another motion of no confidence against the same member cannot be brought for 3 months from the date on which the motion was defeated.

## Section 4: General Meetings

48. At least one general meeting of the Party shall be held in each calendar year. This meeting shall be referred to as the Party's Annual General Meeting (AGM), or the Party's National Convention.
  - 48.1. Additional general meetings may be called during the year for specific purposes. Such a meeting will be referred to as an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM).
49. Members must be given at least four weeks' notice of an AGM, and two weeks' notice of an EGM.
50. The Party shall strive to make general meetings as accessible as possible, including digital access for members unable to attend physically.
  - 50.1. Any venue that hosts a general meeting should be accessible for people with mobility issues, as well as providing Irish Sign Language interpretation where possible.
  - 50.2. The Party should ensure that general meetings provide childcare facilities. This is to allow parents, especially those with younger children, to better engage in the political process.
51. A general meeting may be called by the National Executive for any purpose.

## Section 5: Elections & Representatives

52. The Party shall strive to contest elections at local, national, and European levels.
53. An Electoral Taskforce (“ETF”) shall be established by the National Executive to identify and recommend candidates for election.
54. The Party Leader and the Party Chairperson shall be members of the ETF.
55. The ETF shall operate in accordance with the Rules and Procedures set out for the ETF.
56. The Party recognises the systemic underrepresentation of disenfranchised groups – including, but not limited to, women, people of colour, members of the LGBTQ+ community, migrants, Mincéirí, and those who suffer disadvantage due to their socio-economic status – in electoral politics. To this end, the ETF shall endeavour to be proactive in recruiting and encouraging candidates from such backgrounds to stand for election, particularly in areas the Party has identified as potential seat gains.
57. The Party will strive to have a balanced slate of candidates for any given election. To achieve this aim, quotas based on certain criteria may be utilised. Any such quotas shall be set out in Rules and Procedures.
58. The Parliamentary Party in the relevant jurisdiction may opt to enter into formal government negotiations with other political parties and independents following a general election.
59. A two-thirds majority vote of Parliamentary Party members in the relevant jurisdiction is required to enter into national government formation negotiations.
60. The National Executive shall nominate the negotiation team, to include always the Party Leader and the Leader of the Parliamentary Party of that jurisdiction.
61. The decision as to whether to enter into any programme for government shall be made by the Party membership in a general meeting, requiring a two-thirds majority of those voting to pass.
62. The Party may not enter into national government formation negotiations, in the Republic of Ireland, with right-wing and/or neoliberal parties or independents, or any such group/individual whose views and legislative track-record conflicts with the Party’s goals, principles and objectives.

63. The Parliamentary Party shall be comprised of any Party members who have been elected to a parliamentary body – namely Dáil Éireann, the Seanad, the Northern Ireland Assembly, the House of Commons and the European Parliament.
64. The Chairperson of the Party shall be entitled to attend meetings of any parliamentary party in a non-voting capacity. If the Party appoints Spokespeople who are not otherwise members of any parliamentary party, they may also attend at such meetings in a non-voting capacity for those parts of the meetings that are of relevance to their area.
65. Members may be nominated to represent the Party in a local area or constituency either by being proposed at a meeting of the Electoral Taskforce (the “ETF”). Nominations may be proposed by the ETF itself or through a submission supported by a set number of members of the Party from the relevant area.
- 65.1. The set number of members required for a person to be nominated shall be reviewed annually by the Rules and Procedures Subcommittee.
66. The ETF shall have a vetting process and Code of Conduct for candidates and representatives set out in the Rules and Procedures.
67. The National Executive shall be entitled to suspend a candidate’s right to act as a candidate where a breach of the Code of Conduct has been alleged and such an allegation has been accepted for investigation in accordance with the relevant Rules and Procedures.
68. In the event that multiple persons are nominated as candidates for a relevant area/election, members registered with that electoral area will then vote on which person shall represent the Party there.
- 68.1. A vote on candidate selection will be done by PR-STV.
- 68.2. In the event of a tied vote at a selection convention, the decision will be made by the ETF.
- 68.3. The term of office for a Party Representative shall ordinarily last two years, or until a relevant election is held, whichever comes first. Should an election be held, and the candidate does not stand, they may not be considered as a potential representative at the next selection convention in the area. Should the candidate stand, but is ultimately unsuccessful, another selection convention will be held within three months of the election result. If the candidate is successful in their election, they shall be considered the representative for that area until they lose their elected position.

- 68.4. If the ETF wishes to run more than one candidate in any particular area, it shall indicate this before a selection convention is held. If the ETF decides to do so after a selection convention is held, the candidacy must first be offered to the person or people who were runners-up in the selection convention. In the event that they do not wish to stand as the additional candidate, the ETF may then approach [and appoint] other members they feel would be suitable.
69. The National Executive may, in consultation with the Party Leader, appoint members of the Party to act as Spokespeople on specific topics and policy areas.
- 69.1. These Spokespeople should represent the Party at meetings relating to their policy area as much as is practical. They shall represent the Party's policies or, if there is no specific Party policy relating to their subject, the Party's principles, to the best of their ability.
- 69.2. If a policy area is not represented by the Party's existing Spokespeople, members of the Party may apply to become the Party's Spokesperson by writing to the National Executive. The National Executive will then vote on whether to approve the member as Spokesperson for this area or not.
- 69.3. The National Executive should review the list of Spokespeople at least once every year, and after any general election.

## Section 6: Finance

70. Only the Party shall have the right to use a bank account in the name of the Party. Other Party bank accounts shall always be named for its respective group, relating to their local area or standing within the Party.
71. The Treasurer, on the direction of the National Executive and in co-operation with the Party's trustees shall be responsible for the opening and operation of Party bank accounts. The Treasurer, with the agreement of the National Executive, may opt to delegate responsibility for the operation of bank accounts for local branches or Party sub-groups to their respective committees.
72. The Party may decide to receive funds via borrowing, including taking out loans with financial institutions. To do so, the National Executive must vote to take out a loan for a specific purpose. Should that vote pass, a poll should be taken from the Party's membership on whether to proceed with this loan.
73. The Party's accounts shall be audited annually by a statutory auditor. Their findings shall be organised into a report and presented to members at the AGM. This report shall be circulated in advance.
74. Any resolution of the National Executive which shall require the Trustees to carry out any act shall be minuted and kept in a Minute Book kept by the Party Secretary and access to same shall be provided to the Trustees on request.
75. Party Treasurer shall be appointed and shall serve at the discretion of the National Executive. The member appointed Treasurer may not simultaneously hold a role as an elected member of the National Executive.
76. The duties of the Treasurer shall include the following. The Treasurer:
  - 76.1. shall ensure that the financial affairs of the Party are well managed and that proper accounts and records relating to the finances of the Party are kept;
  - 76.2. shall co-ordinate the fund-raising activities of the Party, and shall be responsible for ensuring the development and implementation of a financial strategic plan in line with agreed party-political objectives;
  - 76.3. shall report to and keep the National Executive regularly informed on the state of the Party's finances, including its assets, liabilities, income and expenditure,
  - 76.4. shall, to enable the due performance of these functions, have all necessary access to Party books and records and to all necessary information from Party officers and employees;

- 76.5. shall prepare a budget annually in accordance with the direction of the National Executive and the Party's policies and principles, for the approval of the National Executive;
- 76.6. shall ensure the roles and responsibilities of the trustees are carried out as directed by the National Executive and in conformity with the Constitution,
- 76.7. shall make available from the funds of the organisation such sums as may be directed by the National Executive from time to time;
- 76.8. shall supply the National Executive with any information it may require concerning the funds of the organisation;
- 76.9. shall ensure that the Party meets all its statutory obligations under tax and political party funding as required by the National Executive.
77. There shall be at least 3 trustees of the Party.
78. The Trustees shall be appointed and shall serve at the discretion of the National Executive.
79. Trustees shall hold their positions for a period not exceeding 3 years without reappointment by the National Executive. A trustee shall continue in office until their successor is appointed.
80. In the event that a notice of resignation is made to the National Executive, the National Executive will arrange for the appointment by them of a replacement trustee without undue delay.
81. The property and assets of the Party shall vest in the Trustees on their appointment for the period of such appointment on trust for the members of the Party and, in the application of such property and assets, the Trustees shall be subject to, and shall comply with, the directives of the National Executive. In the event of the Trustees, or any one of them, refusing to comply with such directives, the National Executive may remove the Trustees, or any of them, from the office of Trustee of the Party.
82. The Trustees shall deal with the property and assets as directed by resolution of the National Executive and an approved entry in the Minute Book shall be conclusive evidence of such a resolution.
83. Trustees shall be entitled to an indemnity out of the assets or property of the Party for all expenses and other liabilities properly incurred by them in the discharge of their duties.
84. The Trustees shall not be liable for any loss howsoever arising other than such as shall

have been occasioned by their own wilful neglect, wilful default or fraud.

85. Subject to the direction of the Treasurer as the National Executive shall from time to time authorise and direct, the Trustees shall be empowered and authorised as follows:

- 85.1. to open and make arrangements for the operation of a banking account or accounts in such banks or other financial institutions;
- 85.2. to invest in and to change investments;
- 85.3. to borrow from a bank or other financial institution on the security of any asset of the Party such amount as the Party may require,
- 85.4. to use the assets or property of the Party in the maintenance and/or improvement of any real property (whether freehold or leasehold) comprising the property or assets of the Party (or acquired by the Trustees under the power conferred on them by this Constitution);
- 85.5. to insure any assets forming part of the property or assets of the Party (or acquired by the Trustees under the power conferred on them by this Constitution) upon such terms and upon such conditions as the Treasurer as directed by the National Executive may direct;
- 85.6. to pay the insurance premiums out of the assets or property of the Party;
- 85.7. to use any monies paid on foot of such insurance policy to restore the asset or property insured, or if this is not possible or not deemed expedient by the Trustees, to apply, subject to the direction of the Treasurer as directed by the National Executive, the monies received on foot of such insurance policy as if it were proceeds of the asset's sale and hold the same upon the same trust as they hold the assets and property of the Party.

86. The Trustees shall be empowered to bring or defend any legal proceedings in the name of or on behalf of the Party, operating always in consultation with and subject to the direction of the National Executive.

87. The Trustees shall be accountable to the Treasurer, acting at the direction of the National Executive.

## Section 7: Governance

88. The Party shall operate in accordance with this Constitution.
89. The National Executive may from time to time create “Rules and Procedures” to provide guidance on particular administrative or operational matters. The provisions of these documents shall be binding.
90. The creation, amendment or revocation of any set of Rules and Procedures will be by vote of the National Executive. Any such creation, amendment or revocation shall be made known and the new Rules and Procedures provided to the membership as soon as practicable.
91. A registry of all Rules and Procedures shall be maintained by the General Secretary (or the Party Chairperson if there is no General Secretary) and shall be made available to members.
92. Any provision not provided for in this document may be dealt with on an ad-hoc basis by the National Executive, in accordance with law.
93. Amendments to this Constitution may only be made by the Party in a general meeting.
94. Any proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be made known to the members at least one week prior to any general meeting at which they are to be proposed.
95. Any motion proposing an amendment to the Constitution (which shall be referred to as a “Technical Motion”) shall only be declared accepted where voted for by 66% of the valid poll or more.

## Section 8: Establishment Provisions

96. The provisions of this Section 8 shall apply from the date of adoption of this constitution (the Adoption Date) until the occurrence of whichever of the following events is the earliest:

- 96.1. the registration of the Party as a political party for the purposes of the Electoral Act 1992 (as amended) by the Registrar of Political Parties; or
- 96.2. a general meeting of the members called by no less than one third of the membership of the Interim Executive Committee; or
- 96.3. 12 months after the Adoption Date.

97. In the event of any conflict between this and any other part of this Constitution the provisions of this Section shall prevail.

98. A committee of members shall be appointed by the membership to act as the Party's primary decision-making body, known as the Interim Executive Committee (the "Committee").

- 98.1. The Committee shall consist of at least 5 and no more than 11 members.
- 98.2. The Committee shall appoint among itself a Chairperson, a Secretary and Treasurer.
- 98.3. The Committee may appoint any member to act as a member of the Committee where a casual vacancy arises or where there are less than 11 members.
- 98.4. The Committee shall have as its main functions and aims:
  - i. the promotion, development, and registration of the Party as a political party pursuant to the Electoral Act 1992 (as amended); and
  - ii. the promotion of the Party's aims as set out in this Constitution and developed by the members in consultation with the Committee.
- 98.5. The Committee shall have full power and authority to carry out or delegate all tasks necessary for the good running of the Party, including but not limited to the following:
  - i. opening and maintaining a bank account,
  - ii. making all legal and regulatory arrangements and submissions appropriate for a political party seeking to register as a political

- party,
- iii. fundraising, receiving and holding funds, making payments and incurring obligations.

98.6. The Committee shall carry out its functions in consultation with its members, as best as it can while the proper procedures and structures of the Party become established.

98.7. Quorum of the Committee shall be 50% of members of the Committee.

98.8. Decision making of the Committee shall be by simple majority.

98.9. The Committee may amend any element of this Constitution by motion.

98.10. Any motion to amend the Constitution shall be carried by not less than two thirds of the Committee.

99. A general meeting may be called by one third or more of the members of the Committee.

100. A general meeting shall be held within 2 weeks of the calling of any general meeting.

