Open Letter Supporting One Member One Vote

To all Australian Greens members,

We will be supporting “one member one vote” in the member ballot running for one month from 13 April, and we urge all members to do the same.

This is one of the first times in our history we have all been asked to vote together as members of the Australian Greens. Each of us will have a direct and equal say over our future, and we believe that principle should be extended.

The Greens were founded on the principle of grassroots democracy. Ours should be the most democratic party in Australia.

How “one member one vote” would work

One Member One Vote does not exclude federal MPs from having a say.

Under One Member One Vote, MPs would have the power to nominate candidates for leader, with each candidate requiring the support of 20% of Party Room. After that every Greens member would get a vote to elect the leader.

Let’s make the Greens bigger and stronger

To beat the big corporations that have captured politics, we need a big, bold grassroots movement, so it’s time to start growing.

Direct elections engage and motivate ordinary party members in long-term strategic discussions about our future. They keep those in the upper echelons of the party accountable to their supporters on the ground. Having a genuine say over the future our party will offer thousands of supporters another great reason to join as members.

Powerful positions should be democratically elected

Members and supporters work hard to get our MPs elected, so it’s important they’re accountable to us. The leader is not just a “coordinator”, they are the public face of the Greens and the figurehead of our movement.

They have a huge influence over which messages and policies the Greens focus on. They decide on portfolio allocations and also have far more staff than other MPs (22 staff compared to 4 for other MPs).

Listen to every member

Democratic elections would encourage leadership candidates to engage with all Greens members across the country and be accountable to all. That includes members in places that are currently without any Greens federal representatives, such as the NT and ACT.

Catch up with other Green parties

The Australian Greens are one of just a few Green parties in the world, and one of the few progressive parties, that does not give members a say in electing our parliamentary leader. It's time to catch up.

The status quo is not working

We cannot support the status quo, which gives just ten people the power to choose who leads our party which had 1.5 million supporters at the last federal election. Leadership elections have been secretive, and force MPs to take sides against each other.

At this moment of unfolding crisis, when so much is up for grabs, we cannot be satisfied with the same outdated system. The Greens must be bolder and we must break past 10% of the nationwide vote. Welcoming new members and new energy is the way forward.

We already know from the survey of all members in November 2019 that just 30% of members support continuing with the status quo.

A Labor-style 50/50 model is a bad idea

We also cannot support a Labor-style 50/50 model. It is risky and wrong in principle.

A 50/50 model would give every MP the same voting power as 1,500 ordinary members.

If the leader is voted in by the Party Room overruling the members, they will struggle to lead and members will feel betrayed and demoralised.

If the members overrule the Party Room, the conservative media will relentlessly sow division and undermine them.

In 2013, Labor members voted for Anthony Albanese, but their MPs overruled them in a factional deal and appointed Bill Shorten. That would be poison for the Greens.

One Member One Vote would discourage closed-door deals, since all candidates would need to make their case to members, not build personal networks of loyalty in Canberra.

Every member matters

We are Greens members new and old from across the country. Some of us are members of Parliament or elected local government councillors. Some of us are current or former office-bearers at federal or State level. We are door-knockers, phone-bankers, how-to-vote volunteers. We are donors, branch members and ordinary people who joined the Greens to do politics differently.

We believe that every member matters. One member, one vote.

In solidarity.

--- Please add your name and any affiliation below --

INSTRUCTIONS

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Eva Tolo, South Brisbane Greens	Allister Harrison, South Brisbane Greens	James Cruz, Randwick Botany Greens
Liam Johns, Greenslopes Greens	Harry James Sinclair, ACT Greens	Hannah Piper, branchless, QLD Greens
Pas Forgione, Epping-Ryde Greens	Declan McClure, South Brisbane Greens	Joel Colls , Pine Rivers Greens QLD
Lauren Gillin, Petersham Newtown Greens	Robert O'Keefe, Clark Greens	Daniel Levy, Kurrajong Greens, ACT
Jake Schoermer, Maiwar Greens	Luke Martin, North Brisbane Greens	Tim Morandini, Canterbury Greens NSW
Mick Jones, Keppel Greens	Victor Huml, Greenslopes Greens	Will Bevens, Melbourne Greens, VIC
Ben Woods, Sutherland Greens	Bjorn Wallin, Ashfield Greens	Mackenzie Baran, Waverley Greens
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Margaret Moate SA Greens	Tom Ballard, City of Yarra Greens	Joseph Comer, Moreland Greens
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Claire Grooby, VIC Greens	Ashburn Carter, Parramatta Greens.	Liz Atkins, Petersham Newtown Greens
Stuart Robinson Mt Coot-tha Greens	Rob Walter, Greenslopes Greens	Stephen Bryson, Pine Rivers Greens
Daniel Taylor NSW Greens	Jane Scott South Sydney	Jamie Shaw Bega Valley Greens

	Greens	
Shilani Liva-Liva Albury Greens	Kieran Bates, Whitehorse Greens	Kerrin Sheard Bega Valley Greens
Marjory Tomlinson Riverina Greens	Eric Stacey, Geelong Greens	Debra Carroll, Maitland Greens
Stef Rozitis, Boothby, SA Greens	Nina Ding, ACT Greens	Georgia Thain, SA Greens - Makin
Jared Zammit, Canterbury Greens	Eli Davern, Albury Greens	Joe McCord, North Brisbane Greens
Beck Stuart, Moreland Greens	Therese Doyle, Newcastle Greens	Benjamin McElduff, Inner Sydney Greens
Tristan Ryan, South Sydney Greens	Liam Flenady, South Brisbane Greens	Joel Pringle, Newcastle Greens
Rob McLeod, Darebin Greens	Louise Ihlein Cessnock Kurri Greens	Darelle Duncan, South Sydney Greens
Jacqueline Marks, Ashfield Greens	Tom Raue, Ashfield Greens	Geoffrey Hudson, Albury Greens
Zia Hakimi, Swan Greens	Katinka Allom, Maiwar Greens	Guy Mosel, North Brisbane Greens
Riki Scanlan, South Sydney Greens	Jeff O'Neill Parramatta Greens	Adam Hamed (Ahmed), South Brisbane Greens
Ludovico Fabiano, Waverley Greens	Keith Parsons Newcastle Greens	Tristan Dique, Newcastle Greens
Kristian Bolwell Petersham Newtown Greens	Erin Payne, South West Brisbane Greens	Luke McCarthy, Darebin Greens
Nicholas Beith, Greenslopes Greens	Kym Chapple, Randwick Botany Greens	Dot Newland, Parragreens
Helen Bergen, Central West Greens	Marion Gevers, Newcastle Greens	Tom O'Grady, Townsville Greens
Thom Roker, South Brisbane Greens	Adam Bell, ACT Greens	David Harding, Melbourne Greens
Ryan Lago, Central Ward Green QLD	Natalie Osborne, Greenslopes Greens	Sebastian Konyn, Adelaide Greens

Clancy Barnard, ACT Greens	Ben Messenger, Maiwar Greens (QLD)	Timothy Hill, NSW Greens
Boaz Magal, Waverley Greens (NSW)	Garth Simpson, South Sydney Greens	Rachael Jacobs, NSW Greens
Alex Read, NT Greens	Jeremy Kelaher, Ashfield Greens	Sinéad Canning, Branchless, QLD Greens
Reece Gittins, ACT Greens	Dan Cook, Darebin Greens	Leon Hawker, Darebin Greens
Felicity Jodell, South Brisbane Greens	Adrian Jones, Sandgate Greens	Annie Nielsen, Parramatta Greens, NSW
Taylor Redwood, South Brisbane Greens	Peter Fry, Central Coast Greens	William Simon, North Pine Greens
Jack Buchanan, Central West Greens, NSW	Jim Casey, Petersham Newtown Greens.	Remy Regan, Petersham Newtown Greens
Rob Shield, Petersham-Newtown Greens.	Linda Wilhelm, Woollahra Greens	Stephanie Partridge, Merri-bek Greens
Current and former office bearers		
Penny Allman-Payne Past National Co-Convenor, past National Councillor & current Queensland Greens Convenor	Harriet de Kok Past Co-Convenor, Australian Greens Participatory Democracy Working Group	Thomas Coyne Current Rural and Regional Convenor, Queensland Greens
Ben Spies-Butcher Past National Co-Convenor	Alex Breskin, Australian Greens Victoria, Assistant Secretary	Chris Maltby, Past National Treasurer
Duncan Munro Past Queensland GreensConvenor	Lyle Burness, past Rural & Regional Convenor, Queensland Greens	John Meyer, Former General Member Qld Campaign Committee & Former Deputy Convenor North Brisbane Branch
Kate Dall, Secretary, Queensland Greens	John Sheldrick Deputy Treasurer Greens NSW	Apsara Sabaratnam Secretary, Multicultural Greens Victoria Past Australian Greens Victoria, Assistant Secretary
Christine Cunningham Past National Co-Convenor	Sean Womersley, Secretary, Queensland Young Greens	Dylan Griffiths NSW Delegate to National Council

		Candidate for Inner West Council
Brendan Wylie Past Co-Convenor Australian Greens Participatory Democracy Working Group	Dominic Mugavin - Party Director, The Greens SA	Amy MacMahon, past Queensland Campaigns Committee Convenor
Sean Cullen-MacAskill National Councillor and past Greens SA Co-Convenor	Malwina Wyra - Alternate National Councillor, past Greens SA Co-Convenor, past candidate	Jody Moate Greens SA Co-Convenor
Neil Cotter, former three term National Secretary, former seven term Queensland Greens Secretary	Thomas Patrick former Australian Greens WA National Councillor	Ashley Sutherland Past Co-Convenor, Australian Young Greens
Travis Jordan, former Australian Greens National Policy Coordinator	Geoff Ash Past Aust Greens Registered Officer, and Greens NSW state Convenor	Simon Burnett Past National Councillor and Election Campaigns Coordinator (Tasmania), past Australian Greens Coordinating Group member and Australian Young Greens Secretary (National)
Effy Elden Co-Convenor, Victorian Greens	Brandon Thompson, NSW Young Greens Co-Convenor	Martin Wong Convenor, Multicultural Greens Victoria
Ruby Ludski, former Queensland Greens National Delegate	Asher Cookson, Co-Convenor, Maroondah-Knox Greens	Stephen Enciso, former Convenor NT Greens
Pamela Ditton, Former NSW Membership Secretary	Hillel Freedman, Treasurer Australian Greens Victoria	Clare Quinn, former Convenor, ACT Greens
Max Chandler-Mather, Convenor Qld Campaign Committee	Kristin O'Connell, former Australian Greens National Secretary	Wolfgang Koerner, current member GNSW Committee of Management, founding member of the Sydney Greens,
Jud Campbell, Former QLD Campaigns Treasurer	Jasmyn Sheppard, Convenor NT Greens	Kleon Toffetti Former NSW Young Greens Co-convenor Former NSW Young Greens Membership Officer
Eliza James-Noakes Former NSW delegate to National Council Former Australian Young	Astrid O'Neil, Deputy Membership Officer GNSW and Committee of Management	Ian Rose Fmr GNSW Secretary 2016 Fmr Woollahra Greens Convenor 2017-18 & 19

Greens co-convenor		Membership, Database & Website Committee Convenor 2018-19 & 20 Member of the GNSW Parliamentary Liaison Committee 2018-19-20 Member of Woollahra Greens 2012 to 2020
Bruce Knobloch Petersham Newtown Greens Former National Council representative for NSW	Damiya Hayden National Deputy Convenor	Emerald Moon Queensland Greens Lead National Delegate
Mick Hidden, Tweed Greens, , Co-Convenor GNSW Standing Campaign Committee, former Co-Convenor of GNSW Parliamentary Liaison Committee.	Amalina Wallace South Sydney GreensCommittee of ManagementPublications Committee	Joshua Briers Former Vic Young Greens Convenor Former Australian Young Greens Secretary Former VIC State Councillor 2016 Federal Candidate for Deakin
Bharath Chandra, Secretary Greens NSW	Phil Jackson Membership Co-Secretary, Moreland Greens	Tamara Ryan, former GNSW Federal Parliamentary Liaison Committee, former GNSW Committee of Management, former GNSW Policy Coordinator, former GNSW Membership Officer, former NSW Young Greens membership officer, former NSW Young Greens media officer, former NSW Young Greens Activism and Activities Coordinator, former GNSW national candidate
Patrick Sandeman, Co-Convenor Adelaide Greens. Former Secretary, The Greens SA	Michael Trembath, Former Co-Convenor, SA Young Greens. Former Assistant Secretary, The Greens SA	Calum Hendry Convenor Greenslopes Greens
Emma Davidson, past Co-Convenor, ACT Greens	Tim Hollo, Convenor, ACT Greens Election Campaign Team, former member of various Australian Greens policy working groups	Sean Cunningham Co-Secretary, Maroondah-Knox Greens
Mark Clayton, Co-convenor Queensland Young Greens Formerly Co-convenor	David Mallard, Treasurer, The Greens NSW	Kate Davis National Council member for WA

Australian Young Greens		
Earl James Co-convenor Port Phillip Greens Victoria	Polly Morgan, Co-convenor Stonnington Greens, Former Victorian Campaign Committee Convenor (2015-2016), former National Councillor for the Victorian Greens (2017-2018), former Victorian Greens Executive Member (2015-2018), Prahran 2018 Campaign Manager.	Michelle Duncan, current Spokesperson, Health Policy Convenor, and National Delegate, Qld Greens. Former AG-PCC delegate.
Doug Williamson Founding member Ryde-Epping & Parramatta Greens, former member NSWG Education & IR working groups		
Current and former Members of Parliament and Local Councillors		
Jonathan Sri, Brisbane City Councillor	Rohan Leppert, Melbourne City Councillor	Tom Kiat, Sydney Inner West Councillor
Tammy Franks, Greens SA MP	Tim Baxter, City of Port Phillip Councillor, VIC	Prue Cancian, former Sydney Waverley Councillor
Andrew Bartlett former Greens Senator & past Queensland Convenor	Lee Rhiannon, former Greens NSW Senator and former state MP	Jenny Leong MP, Greens Member for Newtown
Sylvia Hale Co-Convenor, Greens NSW Former Greens MP	David Shoebridge, NSW Greens MP	Abigail Boyd MLC, Greens NSW MP
Danielle Wheeler, Hawkesbury Councillor, NSW Greens National Councillor	Amanda Cohn, Deputy Mayor of Albury and member of Greens NSW National Council Reference Group	Nicola Grieve, Former Woollahra Councillor
Cathy Peters Former councillor Marrickville Council	Therese Doyle Former Greens councillor, Concord and Newcastle councils	Jonathan Hallett, City of Vincent Councillor (WA)
Michael Berkman MP, Greens Member for Maiwar, Queensland	Linda Eisler Greens Councillor Canterbury Bankstown	Ben Moroney, Macarthur Greens, Campbelltown City Council

Colin Hesse, Greens Councillor, Inner West Council, Greens member since 1989.	Mehreen Faruqi, Greens Senator for NSW	Jamie Parker MP Greens Member for Balmain
Leigh Williams, Hawkesbury Councillor 1999-2016	Scott Ludlam, former Greens Senator for WA	Craig Channells Former Leichhardt Councillor
Matthew Ryan-Sykes, former Greens West Coast Councillor for Tasmania Convenor West Coast Greens Local Group Tasmania , Convenor of the Australian Greens Country Greens Working Group	Des Lawrence, Greens SA Co-Returning Officer, Greens SA rep on Global Issues Group, Past member of International Development Committee.,	
Susan Jarnason, Woollahra Greens, former Woollahra Greens Councillor		