

# PPNZ Inc.

## CONSTITUTION OF THE PEOPLE'S PARTY NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED (PPNZ Inc.)

### PREAMBLE

We, the members of the **People's Party New Zealand Incorporated (PPNZ Inc.)**, establish this Constitution as the supreme governing document of the Party. The Party is founded on the principles of fairness, equality, justice, opportunity, democratic participation, and respect for human dignity for all people of Aotearoa New Zealand.

Founded by **Mr. Alani Fisher Taione**, the People's Party exists to represent the voice of the people, strengthen families and communities, promote accountable leadership, and advance inclusive social and economic development. This Constitution is to be read in conjunction with the Party's By-Laws, which provide detailed operational rules. In the event of any inconsistency, **this Constitution shall prevail**.

### 1. NAME

The name of the incorporated society is **People's Party New Zealand Incorporated (PPNZ Inc.)**, hereinafter referred to as "the Party".

### 2. LEGAL STATUS AND REGISTERED OFFICE

2.1 The Party is an incorporated society registered under the **Incorporated Societies Act 2022**.

2.2 The registered office of the Party shall be determined by resolution of the Governing Board and notified in accordance with statutory requirements.

### 3. PURPOSES, MISSION, AND VALUES

#### 3.1 Purposes

The purposes of the Party are to:

1. Operate as a political party under the **Electoral Act 1993**.
2. Register and maintain registration with the Electoral Commission of New Zealand.
3. Nominate constituency candidates and submit Party Lists for General Elections and By-Elections.
4. Advocate for policies that promote social justice, equality, opportunity, and economic fairness.
5. Support the poor, working class, families, and underrepresented communities.
6. Uphold democratic participation, transparency, and accountability in public life.

#### 3.2 Mission

To build a fair, inclusive, and prosperous New Zealand where all people have equal opportunity to thrive and participate meaningfully in democratic governance.

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## 3.3 Core Values

The Party is guided by the values of:

- Equality
- Integrity
- Justice
- Community and collective responsibility
- Sustainability and stewardship
- Democracy and participation

## 4. MEMBERSHIP

### 4.1 Eligibility

Membership is open to individuals who:

- Support the purposes and values of the Party.
- Are not members of another political party.
- Are eligible or potentially eligible to enrol as an elector under the Electoral Act.

### 4.2 Classes of Membership

Membership classes, subscription levels, and rights shall be determined by the Governing Board and detailed in the By-Laws.

### 4.3 Voting Rights

Only **financial members eligible to vote in New Zealand general elections** may vote on Party matters, subject to delegate-based processes outlined in this Constitution and the By-Laws.

### 4.4 Termination and Discipline

Membership may be suspended or terminated for misconduct, non-compliance, or actions bringing the Party into disrepute, in accordance with principles of natural justice and procedures set out in the By-Laws.

## 5. REGISTRATION AS A POLITICAL PARTY

5.1 Upon attaining at least **500 eligible financial members**, the Governing Board shall authorise the Secretary-General to apply for Party registration with the Electoral Commission.

5.2 The Party logo shall be registered concurrently with Party registration.

## 6. GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

### 6.1 Governing Board

The **Governing Board** is the supreme governing authority of the Party between Party Conferences and is responsible for strategic oversight, governance, and compliance.

### 6.2 Composition

The Governing Board shall consist of:

- President (Founder & Chairman of the Board) – Alani Fisher Taione
- Vice President & Deputy Chairman of the Board) – Pastor Lawrence Lenati)
- Party Leader – Alani Fisher Taione
- Deputy Party Leader – Veronica Veamatahau & Public Relations
- Secretary-General & Head of Operations – Masina Valu

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- Assistant Secretary & Project Manager – Amalani Eseta Haunga
- Treasurer – Sione Havosi Ongoloka
- Assistant Treasurer – Matila Tavake
- External Auditor – Frances Hines
- Lawyer

## 6.3 Term of Office

Elected Board members serve **three-year terms**, subject to re-election, removal, or resignation as provided in this Constitution and the By-Laws.

## 6.4 CAUCUS – Operations, Authority, and Discipline

### 6.4.1 Purpose and Authority

The Caucus shall operate as the parliamentary decision-making body of the People's Party New Zealand in relation to all matters arising within Parliament. The Caucus exists to advance Party policy, uphold Party discipline, and ensure consistent and unified representation of the Party's values, positions, and legislative priorities in the House of Representatives.

### 6.4.2 Composition

The Caucus shall consist of all Members of Parliament elected under the banner of the People's Party New Zealand, whether elected as electorate Members or List Members. Only such Members shall have voting rights within the Caucus.

### 6.4.3 Leadership of the Caucus

- a) The Party Leader shall serve as Chair of the Caucus.
- b) In the absence or incapacity of the Party Leader, the Deputy Party Leader shall act as Chair.
- c) The Caucus may appoint a Whip and, where necessary, a Deputy Whip to manage attendance, voting discipline, and parliamentary coordination.

### 6.4.4 Functions and Responsibilities

The Caucus shall be responsible for:

- a) Determining the Party's parliamentary strategy and legislative priorities;
- b) Coordinating speeches, debates, select committee participation, and parliamentary questions;
- c) Ensuring adherence by Members of Parliament to Party policies adopted under this Constitution;
- d) Managing internal parliamentary roles and portfolios;
- e) Maintaining caucus discipline, unity, and collective responsibility;
- f) Advising the Governing Board on parliamentary matters where required.

### 6.4.5 Collective Responsibility

All Caucus Members shall be bound by the principle of collective responsibility. Once a Caucus decision is reached by majority vote, all Members shall publicly support and adhere to that decision, unless the Caucus formally grants permission for a conscience vote or public dissent.

### 6.4.6 Meetings of the Caucus

- a) The Caucus shall meet regularly during parliamentary sitting periods and at such other times as determined by the Chair.
- b) Meetings may be held in person, electronically, or by other agreed means.
- c) A quorum shall consist of a simple majority of Caucus Members.
- d) Decisions shall be made by majority vote unless otherwise agreed.

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## 6.4.7 Confidentiality

All Caucus proceedings, deliberations, and documents are strictly confidential unless the Caucus authorises disclosure. Breach of confidentiality constitutes serious misconduct and may result in disciplinary action.

## 6.4.8 Relationship with the Governing Board

- a) The Caucus shall operate autonomously in parliamentary matters but shall remain accountable to the Party's Constitution and core policies.
- b) The Caucus shall not alter Party policy independently of the processes outlined in this Constitution.
- c) The Governing Board retains authority over Party governance, membership, and organisational matters outside Parliament.

## 6.4.9 Discipline and Sanctions

The Caucus may recommend disciplinary action to the Governing Board where a Member of Parliament:

- a) Acts contrary to Party policy or Caucus decisions;
  - b) Brings the Party into disrepute;
  - c) Repeatedly breaches collective responsibility or confidentiality.
- Sanctions may include warnings, suspension from Caucus roles, or referral for further action in accordance with the Party's disciplinary procedures.

## 6.4.10 Rules of Procedure

The Caucus may adopt Standing Orders or internal rules of procedure consistent with this Constitution, the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives, and New Zealand law.

## 7. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

The Governing Board shall:

- Govern and manage the affairs and assets of the Party.
- Ensure compliance with the Electoral Act, Incorporated Societies Act, and all applicable laws.
- Approve strategic plans, budgets, and fundraising activities.
- Establish committees and delegate authority as required.
- Oversee policy development and candidate selection processes.
- Interpret and enforce this Constitution and the By-Laws.

## 8. OFFICERS OF THE PARTY

### 8.1 President (Founder)

The President:

- Chairs the Governing Board and Party Conferences.
- Acts as guardian of the Party's founding principles.
- Provides strategic leadership and continuity.

**Founder Clause:** Mr. Alani Fisher Taione shall serve as **President for life**, unless he resigns or passes away.

### 8.2 Vice President

The Vice President supports the President and acts as President in their absence.

### 8.3 Party Leader

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The Party Leader provides political leadership, leads election campaigns, and acts as the principal public spokesperson of the Party.

## 8.4 Secretary-General

The Secretary-General is the chief administrative and compliance officer and the Party's primary contact with the Electoral Commission.

## 8.5 Treasurer

The Treasurer is responsible for financial management, reporting, and Electoral Act financial compliance.

## 9. PARTY CONFERENCE

9.1 The **Annual Party Conference** is the highest decision-making body of the Party.

9.2 The Conference shall:

- Elect members of the Governing Board.
- Approve Party policies and platforms.
- Receive annual reports and audited financial statements.
- Amend the Constitution and By-Laws.

## 10. REGIONAL AND ELECTORATE ORGANISATION

10.1 Regional and Electorate Committees may be established by the Governing Board.

10.2 Such committees operate under delegated authority and in accordance with the By-Laws.

## 11. CANDIDATE SELECTION

Candidate selection processes for constituency and list candidates shall be transparent, merit-based, and compliant with the Electoral Act, as detailed in the By-Laws.

## 12. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND NON-PROFIT STATUS

12.1 The Party operates on a non-profit basis.

12.2 No private pecuniary profit shall be derived by members, except for reasonable expense reimbursement or professional services at market rates.

## 13. COMPLAINTS AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Complaints and disputes shall be handled fairly, promptly, and transparently in accordance with the By-Laws.

## 14. AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

This Constitution may be amended by a **two-thirds majority** vote of delegates at an Annual or Special Party Conference.

## 15. WINDING UP

Upon dissolution, any surplus assets shall be distributed to non-profit organisations with similar purposes, in accordance with the Incorporated Societies Act.

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## BY-LAWS OF THE PEOPLE'S PARTY NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED

### ARTICLE 1: STATUS AND INTERPRETATION

- 1.1 These By-Laws are made under the authority of the Constitution.
- 1.2 In the event of inconsistency, the Constitution prevails.

### ARTICLE 2: MEMBERSHIP ADMINISTRATION

- 2.1 Applications for membership shall be submitted to the Secretary-General.
- 2.2 Membership subscriptions, renewal dates, and classes shall be set by the Governing Board.
- 2.3 Members must comply with Party rules, policies, and lawful directives.
- 2.4 Disciplinary procedures shall observe natural justice, including notice, opportunity to respond, and appeal rights.

### ARTICLE 3: GOVERNING BOARD OPERATIONS

- 3.1 The Governing Board may also be referred to operationally as the **Central Executive** but retains full constitutional authority.
- 3.2 The Board shall meet at least monthly.
- 3.3 Quorum, notice, and voting procedures shall be determined by Board resolution.

### ARTICLE 4: REGIONAL AND ELECTORATE COMMITTEES

- 4.1 Committees operate under authority delegated by the Governing Board.
- 4.2 Committees shall report regularly to the Governing Board.

### ARTICLE 5: PARTY CONFERENCE PROCEDURES

- 5.1 Delegates shall be selected by Regional or Electorate Committees in accordance with Board-approved criteria.
- 5.2 Elections shall be conducted by secret ballot.

### ARTICLE 6: POLICY DEVELOPMENT

- 6.1 Policy Committees may be appointed by the Governing Board.
- 6.2 Policies require ratification by the Annual Party Conference.

### ARTICLE 7: CANDIDATE SELECTION

- 7.1 Candidate selection panels shall be approved by the Governing Board.
- 7.2 Selection criteria shall include community service, capability, integrity, and alignment with Party values.

### ARTICLE 8: FINANCE AND FUNDRAISING

- 8.1 All fundraising and donations must comply with the Electoral Act.
- 8.2 Two authorised officers must approve all payments.

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## ARTICLE 9: COMPLAINTS AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

9.1 Complaints shall be lodged with the Secretary-General.

9.2 Mediation may be utilised before disciplinary action is taken.

## ARTICLE 10: AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

These By-Laws may be amended by:

- A two-thirds vote of the Governing Board; or
- A simple majority vote at an Annual Party Conference.

## ARTICLE 11: DISSOLUTION

On dissolution, assets shall be distributed in accordance with the Constitution.