
OneAction – Constitution (Draft 2.3)

This constitution comes into effect when OneAction officially incorporates

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1 Section One – Introduction

1.1 Name

The name of the society is “OneAction NZ Democracy Co-operative Incorporated” referred to hereafter as “OneAction”

1.2 Purpose of this constitution

- 1.2.1 Ensure that the purposes and aims on which OneAction was founded, are not lost or distorted
- 1.2.2 Provide the rules and structure which govern the start-up, and day-to-day operation of OneAction

1.3 Changes to this constitution

- 1.3.1 Section One and Section Two of this constitution cannot be modified until OneAction reaches Stage 4 – Quorum, as defined in Section 2.2.
- 1.3.2 Section One and Section Two override all other sections and amendments where conflict arises
- 1.3.3 Section Three, along with any amendments may be modified in compliance with section 3.5

1.4 Terms

- 1.4.1 New Zealander
- 1.4.2 Democracy Co-operative
- 1.4.3 The Foundations
- 1.4.4 The Rules

2 Section Two – The Foundations

2.1 Purpose

OneAction is a member-driven political organisation which, through participatory processes, exists to give its members a voice in the decisions which shape Aotearoa New Zealand, and to enact that voice by being elected to parliament by its members

2.2 Outcomes

These are the outcomes which OneAction to aims create or contribute to:

- 2.2.1 For a substantial number of New Zealanders (greater than 200,000) contributing to the decisions which shape Aotearoa New Zealand is a fun and rewarding part of everyday life, and that these New Zealanders feel that their views matter and have an impact
- 2.2.2 Political discourse in New Zealand is moved forward beyond oppositional pettiness, beyond the things we disagree on, and towards the outcomes we *can* agree on. New Zealanders feel more energised and positive about democracy and the future of Aotearoa New Zealand
- 2.2.3 Negative aspects of the internet and social media which harm democracy, such as misinformation, filter bubbles and divisive rhetoric are being displaced through the use of a digital democracy platform which is collectively owned and operated by its community, and is free from the advertising and algorithms, of profit-driven, corporate-owned platforms
- 2.2.4 Aotearoa New Zealand leads the world in a new way of doing democracy, through grassroots digital participation that works within existing political systems

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2.3 Objectives

- 2.3.1 To develop a digital democracy platform where OneAction members can make their voices heard by participating in defining the outcomes they want for Aotearoa New Zealand and the policy which will deliver those outcomes. The platform will:
- a) Facilitate participation using tools and processes to generate meaningful outputs which form the basis for policy development
 - b) Be easy to use, and support a wide range of participation – from the most basic level which will take a member less than 2 minutes per month, all the way through to detailed debate and policy development
 - c) Be owned, operated and supported by its members, free from commercial influence
 - d) Facilitate building and meeting of local OneAction communities face-to-face
- 2.3.2 To create a framework for the development and continuous evolution of policy, which takes the outcomes set by the OneAction membership, the best available evidence and expert advice as inputs
- 2.3.3 To establish a new way of doing democracy for everyday people and be a model for quality, outcomes-focused, collective decision making at massive scale
- 2.3.4 To grow the membership of OneAction to at least 500,000 members by July 2032, primarily through word-of-mouth
- 2.3.5 To honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi, the founding document of Aotearoa New Zealand

2.4 TallyUp

TallyUp™ is the participatory process by which members of OneAction maintain their membership, and represents the minimum level of regular participation required to be a member of OneAction

- 2.4.1 Members are required to regularly re-new their membership through the TallyUp process, as per the frequency and method stated in the **Membership** section of the rules (3.7.1)
- 2.4.2 OneAction will regularly tally up and communicate to all members, the total number of active members, as per the frequency and method stated in the **Membership** section of the rules (3.7.1)

2.5 Start-up Stages

2.5.1 OneAction will be developed through five pre-defined stages. A stage is advanced when the TallyUp (i.e. total number of active members at a point in time) reaches a given threshold for 3 consecutive months, as per the following thresholds:

<u>Stage</u>	<u>TallyUp Threshold</u>
Stage 1 – Vision:	0 Members
Stage 2 – Start-up:	25,000 Members
Stage 3 – Build:	50,000 Members
Stage 4 – Quorum:	150,000 Members
Stage 5 – Launch:	200,000 Members

- 2.5.2 The Rules may not decrease any of the required TallyUp thresholds stated in section 2.5.1
- 2.5.3 The Rules may increase any of the required TallyUp thresholds stated in section 2.5.1
- 2.5.4 In addition to the TallyUp threshold, The Rules may stipulate additional criteria to move to a given stage
- 2.5.5 OneAction will not register as an official New Zealand political party until Stage 5 is reached

2.6 Donations and Transparency

This section sets out the foundational rules for funding.

2.6.1 Membership is free

2.6.2 Financial cash donations may only be accepted from individual members of OneAction

2.6.3 An individual member may donate up to a maximum amount within a given time period as defined in The Rules, section 3.x.x.

2.6.4 Non-cash donations (goods and services) may be accepted from individual members, companies and other organisations so long as;

- a) The donation is directly associated with assisting OneAction in carrying out its activities. Examples include but not limited to; the use of a venue for meetings, transportation, catering, IT services
- b) The gifting party receives no direct benefit in exchange for the gift. For example, advertisement of a brand
- c) The gifting party is a direct owner or controller of the goods or services being donated. For example, Jim, owner of Jim's Catering donates catering services to the value of \$1250.00. Jim is in direct control of the resource, so this is acceptable. However, Jim may not purchase \$500,000 worth of IT services from Amazon and gift this to OneAction as this would simply be a way for Jim to bypass the cap on individual cash donations

2.6.5 A Financial Transparency Ledger must be published and maintained on the OneAction website and be accessible to members. The Financial Transparency Ledger must:

- a) Record all cash donations from individual members within 180 days of the donation being received. Records must include:
 - i. A description which states that the donation is a cash donation from an individual member
 - ii. The amount of the donation in NZD
 - iii. The date the donation was made
- b) Record all non-cash donations with a value greater than \$1000 NZD within 180 days of the donation being received. Records must include:
 - i. A description of what was donated e.g. "Use of private conference venue and catering"
 - ii. The value of the donation in NZD e.g. \$1750.00
 - iii. The legal name of the organisation if the gifting party is not an individual e.g. "Jim's Catering Co"
 - iv. The date the donation was made
- c) Record all outgoing payments, except where such records may compromise the privacy of individuals (e.g. salaries etc.), in which case payment records may be aggregated on a monthly basis). Records must include:
 - i. A description of what the payment was for. E.g. "Cloud computing services"
 - ii. The amount of the payment in NZD. e.g. \$47.56
 - iii. The name of the payee E.g. "Amazon Web Services"
 - iv. The date the payment was made

2.7 Values

Outcomes-based values will be collectively defined by the membership, through participatory process once Stage 4 (Quorum) is reached and our digital democracy platform is ready.

3 Section Three – The Rules

This section provides the rules, guiding principles and governance model used to operate OneAction. These rules are meant to be fit-for-purpose for the **current stage** as per the stages defined in section 2.5 and will be updated as OneAction grows through each stage. OneAction is currently in **Stage 1 – Vision**.

3.1 Registered Office

The registered office of OneAction is:

3.2 Guiding Principals

These principals define the actions, behaviours and mindsets which, as members, we aim to display when interacting within or on behalf of OneAction. They define the kind of organisation we aspire to be.

These principals will continue to be evolved as we learn more and work our way through the start-up stages. In Stage 4 (Quorum) there will be an opportunity for the co-operative to participate in updating these guiding principles using our participation platform.

Name	Engagement Drives Leadership
Statement	OneAction is founded on the principal that the quality of our government leadership is directly proportional to the engagement of everyday New Zealander's
Rationale	The failings, lack of ambition and unwillingness to act in the public good that we often see in government, almost always comes down to a failure of leadership, but until a significant number of New Zealanders decide to take responsibility for the direction of Aotearoa New Zealand we can't expect the quality of our leadership to rise. OneAction aims to build a mechanism that allows everyday people to take on a very small part of this responsibility by building a new way of doing politics
Implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OneAction is a new kind of political party, a democracy co-operative, and membership numbers are key, both in terms of representation and acquisition of political power. OneAction will rely almost entirely on word-of-mouth to spread, except where incidental publicity comes our way. Simply put – if you see the value in the vision, and want to grow OneAction, you'll need to mention it to your friends and family – see the 'Take it or Leave it' principle below For everyday New Zealanders to engage in setting the direction of Aotearoa New Zealand, participation needs to be quick and easy at the most basic level, but also offer the opportunity for deep and detailed involvement Observe the 'Many Hands Make Light Work' principal

Commented [RG1]: Remove take it or leave it principle?

Name	Outcomes First, Policies Second
Statement	Participation in OneAction will focus on building consensus and cementing outcomes and values ("the what"), before addressing "the how" (policy, practices etc.)
Rationale	"The how" should always be evolving, it's derived from evidence, expert advice and research, but first we need to define what we want for Aotearoa New Zealand, only then can we begin to look at how we get there
Implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outcomes are values-based and long-lived, whereas policies and practices should continuously improve to better deliver the stated outcome Tools for participating in setting outcomes should be as accessible as possible, and be prioritised over tools for policy development While our desired outcomes drive policies, policies can deliver both desired and undesired outcomes – understand risks and trade-offs – the membership has the final vote on whether a proposed policy is accepted into the portfolio or is sent back for re-work

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Name	We Could be Wrong
Statement	As much as humanly possible, we will approach all things we do with an attitude that says, <i>“our current assumptions might be wrong, and we’re open to new ideas and open to changing our minds”</i>
Rationale	It’s without doubt, that as humans, we tend to hold certain ideas very tightly and struggle to even give ourselves permission to change our minds, let alone admit to others that we’ve changed our mind, it’s human nature. This principle is here to remind us to stay open, have humility and think at least twice before defending a viewpoint to the death!
Implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admit when we get things wrong and take responsibility • Agree to take a peek through the other persons eyes, agree to try to change your mind, agree to disagree, but then focus on what we <i>can</i> agree on, and make a plan. This is the opposite of divisive politics • Remember we’re all human • Focus on outcomes and continually evolve practices in pursuit of those outcomes rather than doggedly defending practices because we’re too proud or embarrassed to admit we got it wrong • Understand how outcomes will be observed and measured • Listen to the people on the ground, at the front line • Expect and accept unintended consequences and failure as a part of progress • Mitigate negative outcomes from unintended consequences • Have a roll-back plan for when things aren’t working the way we thought they would

Name	Always Evolve
Statement	OneAction will strive to continuously evolve and improve everything we do
Rationale	All organisations need to start somewhere and at the start the road is always bumpy. This principle recognises that things are never perfect and that’s ok, but also that we’re on a journey and that we need to strive to continuously improve
Implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognise that new innovations take time to get up and running • Take risks • Actively identify and manage risks • Use proven methodologies • Capture lessons learned • Be open about failures and take responsibility

Name	Collectively Owned, Collectively Empowering
Statement	OneAction is a democracy co-operative, it is owned, operated and funded by its members and its power to influence the decisions that shape Aotearoa New Zealand should be evenly shared amongst its members
Rationale	Like any organisation, OneAction operates under a governance structure where different people hold different roles and responsibilities, this is the nature of working together, however the purpose of OneAction is, [to be] <i>a member-driven political organisation which, through participatory processes, exists to give its members a voice in the decisions which shape Aotearoa New Zealand, and to enact that voice by being elected to parliament by its members, (and not to concentrate political power in the governance structure)</i>
Implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be as inclusive and accessible as possible • Communicate clearly and plainly • Apply safeguards to decision making processes which ensure adequate representative input and balanced, well-articulated arguments

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Name	Take It or Leave It
Statement	<p>OneAction aims to bring together Kiwis who want to take responsibility for the direction of Aotearoa New Zealand and build an organisation which has the teeth to make meaningful change, driven from the grass roots up, free from oppositional pettiness and political expediency (i.e. doing and saying just about anything to get votes and power)</p> <p><i>We adopt an attitude that says, 'Hey, take a look at what we're doing, if it makes sense to you, join us! But if it's not for you, that's fine we're not here to harass and try to convince you, we're just seeking the ones who are keen to cut a new path for democracy in Aotearoa New Zealand, so take it or leave it'</i></p>
Rationale	OneAction is here to offer something, not to try and get something
Implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We spread our vision by word of mouth We don't expend energy making a scene to get media attention, if we're doing it right, the media will come to us We don't spend money on public advertising, although we will likely spend money on print media to help our members clearly communicate what we're all about

Commented [RG2]: Considering removing this. Blogs of late have certainly been trying to convince people of a new way of doing things and it feels right...The main point I'm trying to make is that we're here to offer something, not just out to get something (i.e. votes).

Name	Many Hands Make Light Work
Statement	OneAction is a democracy co-operative and is built on many people contributing a small amount rather than a small group contributing a lot. The aim is to spread the burden and the outcomes far and wide
Rationale	Like a ship where most of the crew are milling around, Aotearoa New Zealand can't set a strong direction without a significant proportion of the population getting deliberate about what they want
Implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation should be quick, easy and accessible (Specifically, online systems) Create micro-roles with light but clearly defined expectations

Name	Ready, not Reckless
Statement	OneAction will only attempt to influence the direction of Aotearoa New Zealand in areas where we have done our due diligence
Rationale	While OneAction seeks to create a means to accelerate progress for the public good, and our ability to adapt to a rapidly changing world, it's crucial that we recognise that government policy is complex and impacts the lives of individuals, and typically has unintended consequences
Implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Observe the "We Could be Wrong" principle Policy development follows a robust framework that employs evidence, research

3.3 Governance

This section provides detail about how OneAction is governed and how decisions are made. It's important to note the model is meant to be fit-for-purpose for the current stage. OneAction is currently in **Stage 1 – Vision**. As we grow, this model will be adapted to suit.

3.3.1 Chair

3.3.2 Board

3.3.3 Disputes

3.4 Interpretation

3.5 Changes to these rules

These rules (including this sub section) are a living blueprint for starting and operating OneAction, and as such will evolve over time and as we move through each stage.

3.5.1 Principles

- a) Changes to these rules should be done in pursuit of the outcomes and objectives stated in section 2 (the foundations), in technicality and in spirit.

3.5.2 Acceptance of changes to the rules: **todo**

3.6 Membership

3.6.1 OneAction membership is open to anyone who:

- a) regularly confirms their membership through **TallyUp™** as per the TallyUp rules in Section 3.7
- b) Is 16 years of age or older
- c) Calls Aotearoa New Zealand their home (whether or not it's their only home)
- d) Agrees to abide by the rules and guiding principles in this constitution

3.7 TallyUp Rules

TallyUp™ is the participatory process by which members join OneAction and maintain their membership status. It is the cornerstone of OneAction and represents the minimum level of participation required to be a member.

3.7.1 Joining

Someone who wants to join as a member of OneAction must send an email to tallyup@oneaction.nz. The email must:

- a) be sent from an email address/account that is personally owned by an individual and include a real name in the 'display name'. The display name is what people see in their email program when you send them an email. For example, your email address might be higgs481@hotmail.com but your display would be your real name e.g. Chris Higgins
- b) contain the word 'Join' or the word 'TallyUp' in the subject line. This is to help us prevent spam
- c) not contain any text, photos or attachments. Just a blank email with the above subject line

3.7.2 Monthly TallyUp

On the last day of every month, the OneAction admin team will send an email to all members with the current TallyUp – that is, the total number of active members. Members who want to retain their membership need to reply to this email before the end of the following month. A blank reply is all that is required. The TallyUp system will automatically send an email back to the member confirming that their membership has been renewed and that they will be counted in the next TallyUp.

3.8 Stage Advancement

3.8.1 OneAction is currently in **Stage 1 – Vision**. To advance to **Stage 2 – Start-up**, in addition to meeting the **TallyUp™** threshold as stated in section 2.5, the following criteria must be met:

- a) Approval from the board who will consider things like system and process readiness

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3.9 Donations

3.9.1 Donations are not accepted in stage 1.

(It's expected that we will launch a donations platform in Stage 2)

3.9.2 Basic expenses will be covered by founding members. Including but not limited to, costs to run the TallyUp platform or costs for print material

3.9.3 All expenses over \$50 will be itemised and viewable online by members as per the rules for outgoing payment transparency in section 2.6.5.c (Outgoing payments)

3.10 Dissolution