INTRODUCTION

The Liberal Party of Australia (NSW Division) State Council in 2012 placed party reform firmly on the forward agenda.

We believe this issue is important for the future of our organisation, and the ability of the party to continue to provide good government for the state and the nation.

In July this year, the President reported back to State Council on a ‘round table’ reform process. Commencement of the process was delayed to give the federal election campaign the priority it deserved.

We now believe the reform process needs to be a priority.

The OBJECTIVES of this reform process should include:

- A greater say for members
- Improved connection to the community
- An organisational structure that motivates a wider base to actively engage with the Party in candidate selection, member forums and policy debate

State Council’s call for reform is a strong signal that it does not take our recent electoral success at the state and federal level for granted – and neither do we. With two general elections to be held in the next three years we need to act quickly.

To achieve reform that meets our objectives we must:

- consult fully with members;
- bring forward reform proposals that have the support of the party;
- examine reforms already achieved by other Divisions; and
- set firm timelines.

That State Executive resolves to:

1. Confirm that reform of the Liberal Party of Australia (NSW Division) [“the NSW Division”] is the highest priority of the State Executive.

2. Support the position of the Prime Minister, the Premier of NSW and the President of the NSW Division that reform is critical to our ongoing electoral success.
3. Agree to immediately establish a four person Eminent Persons Group of senior party leaders to progress reform of the NSW Division, by examining preselection processes.

4. Agree that the Hon John Howard OM AC, the Hon Philip Ruddock MP, Mrs Chris McDiven AM, and the Hon Dr David Kemp be appointed to the Eminent Persons Group to be established as the Reform Blueprint Expert Panel ["the Expert Panel"].

5. Agree that the Hon John Howard OM AC be appointed as Chair of the Expert Panel.

6. Continue to support the Party Reform Committee ["the Committee"] as chaired by the President, Mr Chris Downy, and its work in providing a process for all sections of the Party to provide input into the reform process.

7. Confirm that in addition to the Expert Panel’s examination of preselection processes, the Committee will complete its membership survey and continue its work to develop a package of other reforms to strengthen the party organisation.

8. Agree that the Expert Panel will deliver a blueprint proposal for reform to State Executive and State Council in March/April 2014.

9. Agree that where the blueprint proposed is accepted by State Council, State Executive shall refer the blueprint to the Constitutional Standing Committee, which will prepare a constitutional amendment to be presented to State Council by the end third quarter of 2014.

10. Agree the reform review process and timelines set out in Table 1 below.


12. Any body of the Party may present reform proposals to State Executive for consideration in addition to the recommendations of the Expert Panel or the Party Reform Committee.

**TIMELINE FOR REFORM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23 November 2013</td>
<td>State Council presented with reform timeline and the Reform Blueprint Expert Panel is announced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March / April 2014</td>
<td>Blueprint for reform presented to State Executive and State Council.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2014 – September 2014</td>
<td>Reform roadshow commences with regional forums, meetings with members.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
REFORM BLUEPRINT EXPERT PANEL

The Prime Minister, Premier and President nominate:

- The Hon John Howard OM AC
- The Hon Philip Ruddock MP,
- Mrs Chris McDiven AM; and
- The Hon Dr David Kemp

The Expert Panel will be tasked with preparing a Reform Blueprint to be presented to State Executive and State Council for a vote at State Council in April 2014.

The Expert Panel will review reform undertaken in other Divisions and consider how different approaches could be applied or adapted in NSW.

The Expert Panel’s reform framework will consider the results of the Member Survey being conducted from December 2013 to February 2014.