

Terms of the amalgamation

of the Australian Democrats and
CountryMinded

That Australian Democrats will amalgamate with the Country Minded Party having concluded that this is in the best interests of both Parties. The terms of the amalgamation are:

1. that the amalgamated party will be named the Australian Democrats
2. that the Australian Democrats will take on the legal obligations of each individual party
3. that the property of the individual parties will become the property of the Australian Democrats
4. that all debts, liabilities and contractual obligations of the individual parties will become the debts and liabilities and obligations of the Australian Democrats
5. notwithstanding 4) above, that the current debt for legal services of the former Australian Democrats will continue to be repaid with the current method with no liability extending to the members of CountryMinded.
6. By their consent the members of each party will become members of the Australian Democrats
7. that an interim National Executive will be appointed until the first AGM which will be held within the next 18 months and that the interim National Executive will consist of -
 - a National President; nominated by the former Australian Democrats National Executive
 - a National Vice-President; nominated by Country Minded National Executive
 - a National Vice-President; nominated by the Australian Democrats National Executive
 - a National Secretary; nominated by the former Australian Democrats National Executive
 - a National Treasurer; nominated by the former Australian Democrats National Executive
 - the relevant representatives from established Divisions of the former Australian Democrats
 - an ordinary member nominated by Country Minded National Executive
8. that as soon as is practicable, a rural / country Division will be established, the focus of which will be advocacy and policy development for rural and regional issues

That the Australian Democrats agree to the following Objectives and Principles:

1. To act honestly and ethically, being genuinely accountable and acting in the best interests of the public.
2. To determine positions and act according to evidence, merit and best practice, not partisan ideology nor vested interest
3. To uphold principles of freedom, self-determination, personal responsibility, democracy, fairness and human rights
4. To uphold principles of equal opportunity, equal access to work, education, health, housing and other services

5. To foster a culture of stewardship, acting proactively for future generations, and leaving our country better than we found it
6. To accept the scientific method as the best tool to understand the world around us, particularly in the preservation of our climate and environment
7. To preserve Australia's natural resources and agricultural landscapes
8. To recognise and support the contribution that rural and regional communities make to the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the nation
9. To recognise the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and cultures and support their spiritual and physical connection to country
10. To be inclusive and respect diversity of opinion, religion, culture, ethnicity, race, ability, age, sexuality and gender without discrimination or prejudice
11. To expect and pursue excellence and efficiency in the delivery of government services at all levels
12. To foster a sustainable economy, and to be open to the need for Government intervention where markets fail.
13. To observe the separation of powers, the independence of the parliament, the executive of government and the judiciary and to maintain clear separation of church and state
14. To value the insights and experience of members, and engage with them democratically in Party decision-making.
15. To adhere to honest, just, respectful and collaborative behaviour both within, and when representing, the Party