Citizens are seeking public decisions that are less adversarial and less short term in outlook.

The new *democracy* Foundation researches and publishes alternative democratic methods that seek to deliver this.

We pursue alternatives more likely to identify common ground, end the continuous campaign and return representatives to a focus on issues, not opinion polls.

We are not a thinktank – we fund practical trials.

We don’t need better politicians. We need a better system.
WHO WE ARE & HOW WE BEGAN

• Non-partisan, non-issue based.
• Privately underwritten research foundation
• Leading academics, practitioners and former politicians.
• Present all alternatives for innovation, fund their practical trial and research their impact.
**Why Governments Want This**

- Positive case for change.
- Awareness of limits of power.
- Electoral trends.
- Credible backers & track record as an operator.
KEY ORGANISING/ DESIGN PRINCIPLES

✓ Critical elements:
  Random Selection
  Time
  Information
  Clear remit and authority.
  Ask a question, don’t sell an answer.

✓ Goal is to visibly earn public trust.
Effectiveness

- Let’s talk examples
  - City of Melbourne
  - Nuclear Fuel Cycle
  - ACT Planning & Housing Choices

- Success measures
  - The decisions taken
  - Bi-partisan political interest
  - Changes in media acceptance
What’s Next

- UN Democracy Fund
  - Handbook on Democracy Beyond Elections *
  - 3x funded international pilot projects
  - Documentary coverage

- Look at the UK
  - Ministry of Culture funding 8x major jury projects