

Democracy Developers Ltd

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<https://democracydevelopers.org.au>

ABN 80 656 928 415



ANNUAL REPORT 2025


Helping Australians to participate in democratic processes.

Vision

A free and open democracy for the benefit of all Australians.

Mission

To support all Australians to engage and participate in the democratic process.



Democracy Developers Ltd was established in January 2022 by a group of Australians passionate about the future of our democracy. We are committed to developing transparent and trustworthy digital technology that genuinely promotes democracy.

We are a not-for-profit company registered with the ACNC, established primarily to protect human rights and advance education, including by:

- 1) practically supporting Australians to participate in democratic processes;
- 2) promoting everyday use of political rights by deploying software which helps people to raise and focus political ideas and concerns;
- 3) enabling easy, secure and effective communication between people and their political representatives;
- 4) strengthening accountability of public authorities and elected representatives to the public;
- 5) providing objective technical analysis for government and the public of electronic forms of democratic participation including risks, potential benefits, security and effectiveness;
- 6) conducting and supporting high quality openly available research into electronic forms of democratic participation, their security and effectiveness;
- 7) informing Australians about the functions of Australian parliamentary democracy and how they can actively participate; and
- 8) building privacy-respecting open-source well-documented software as an educational resource to teach the public how to develop, adapt and reuse secure free software.

Our team: The Board



Vanessa Teague
Chairperson & Founder



Lillian McCann
Board member &
Technologist



Rosey Conway
Board member &
Communications
Specialist

Employees & Consultants



Geraldine Allen
FCPA FGIA
Administrative Manager
& Company Secretary



Michelle Blom
RAIRE Technical
Specialist



Chris Culnane
Technical
Consultant

Volunteers



Andrew Conway
Software
development



Dan Cameron
Testing & QA



ACHIEVEMENTS

Our new app, Age of Reason, is online and nearly ready for soft launch as at December 2025. The testing version is openly available at <https://ageofreason.democracydevelopers.org.au/> and all the supporting code is at <https://gitlab.com/democracydevelopers/>

We successfully completed the Australian National University research services project entitled "Cryptographic protocol development and prototyping and implementation". The paper was published at the [e-vote-id 2025](#) conference and the [protocol description](#) is openly available on Arxiv.

We also successfully finalised the extension of the State of Colorado's Risk-Limiting Audit (RLA) System to allow for the auditing of Instant-Runoff Voting (IRV) / Ranked-Choice Voting (RCV) elections as required by State of Colorado law. This IRV audit software was used for the first time in a statutory audit in November 2025.

Our new project – currently in its initial implementation phase - is an educational app and website, "Explain that Election", describing how Australian democracy works and inviting users to examine complex voting and counting systems.

Chairperson's report

This year our IRV RLA (instant-runoff-voting risk-limiting-audit) software was used for the first time in a statutory audit in November 2025 in Colorado. This open-source software directly contributes to transparent, trust-building electoral processes in Colorado, and could be adapted to other jurisdictions.

We have an alpha-testing version of the Age of Reason app and website, which allows a person to find their Australian federal representatives, choose from a list of current bills, and email their MPs or Senators with opinions and suggestions for improvements. We have also started work on an education-focused app and website, teaching people about how Australian parliamentary democracy, and Australian vote counting, work.

A big thank you to our volunteers Dan Cameron, Chuanyuan Liu and Andrew Conway, our excellent employees Michelle Blom and Geraldine Allen, our valued consultants Chris Culnane and Ben Harnett, and my fellow Board members Rosey Conway and Lillian McCann for their ever-valuable questions and advice.

A/Prof Vanessa Teague, Chair

Financial reports

The income and expense summary below provides a true and fair view of our financial position for the financial year ending 30 June 2025. Democracy Developers Ltd recorded an operational surplus of \$424,517 for the year ending 30 June 2025 and has equity of \$522,000 as at 30 June 2025. The consultancy contracts signed in the previous financial year are now finalised with the final cash being received in early July 2025 to be expended on our projects.

Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Revenue	561,670	188,521
Interest revenue calculated using the effective method	4,000	
Expenses		
Administration expenses	(9,594)	(3,304)
Application development	(18,345)	(2,000)
Employee benefits expense	(102,643)	(158,575)
Other expenses	(10,571)	-
Surplus before income tax expense	424,517	24,642
Income tax expense	-	-
Surplus after income tax expense for the year attributable to the members of Democracy Developers Ltd	424,517	24,642
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to the members of Democracy Developers Ltd	424,517	24,642

Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	90,413	106,553
Trade and other receivables	257,609	78
Other financial assets	200,000	-
Other	6,957	6,277
Total current assets	<u>554,979</u>	<u>112,908</u>
Total assets	<u>554,979</u>	<u>112,908</u>
Liabilities		
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	25,225	9,616
Employee benefits	7,753	5,808
Total current liabilities	<u>32,978</u>	<u>15,424</u>
Total liabilities	<u>32,978</u>	<u>15,424</u>
Net Assets	522,001	97,484
Equity		
Retained surpluses	522,001	97,484
Total Equity	<u>522,001</u>	<u>97,484</u>