

Application Guidelines for Conduct of Exit Poll in the 2016 Election Committee Subsector Ordinary Elections

Any person or organisation intending to conduct exit poll in the 2016 Election Committee Subsector Ordinary Elections must complete the prescribed application form for conduct of exit poll and submit it to the Registration and Electoral Office (“REO”) before the deadline.

Application Procedures

Information to be provided in the Application Form

- (a) the name and address of the person or organisation intending to conduct an exit poll on the polling day;
- (b) the name and identity document ^(Note) number (alphabet and the first 3 digits) of the person responsible together with his/her contact telephone number(s) for contact, especially during the polling hours;
- (c) a list showing the number of persons who will be deployed for the conduct of exit poll at each polling station on the polling day (not more than 15 interviewers will be allowed to be deployed for the conduct of exit poll in a polling station, if an applicant / applicant organisation submits more than 15 interviewers for any one of the polling stations, the Registration and Electoral Office will only consider the information of the first 15 persons) together with the name and identity document (Note) number (alphabet and the first 3 digits) of each of all the persons who will be so deployed; and
- (d) the code and name of the polling stations at which the applicant / applicant organisation wishes to conduct exit poll on the polling day.

Declaration

A person or organisation applying for the conduct of exit poll in the 2016 Election Committee Subsector Ordinary Elections must make a statutory declaration by virtue of the Oaths and Declarations Ordinance (Cap. 11) as required in Part I of the application form. The statutory declaration must be made before a Commissioner for Oaths, a Justice of the Peace or a solicitor with a practising certificate. Before making the statutory declaration, the declarant should read its contents carefully. When an applicant organisation decides who is to make the statutory declaration, it should consider whether such person satisfies the requirements stated in paragraph 1 of Part I of the application form.

(Note) According to section 1(1) of the Electoral Affairs Commission (Electoral Procedure) (Election Committee) Regulation (Cap. 541I), “identity document” means -

- (a) an identity card; or
- (b) a document issued to a person under regulations in force under the Registration of Persons Ordinance (Cap. 177) certifying that the person is exempt from being required to register under that Ordinance; or
- (c) any other document issued to a person that is acceptable as proof of the person’s identity to the Electoral Registration Officer (as defined in section 1(1) of the Schedule to the Chief Executive Election Ordinance (Cap. 569)).

Submission of Application

Applicants / Applicant organisations must submit the **original** of the completed application form with the statutory declaration **in person or by post** to the REO (Address: Room 1377, 13th Floor, Kowloonbay International Trade & Exhibition Centre, 1 Trademart Drive, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon (Attention: Special Support Team of Elections Division)) **not later than 10 days before the polling day (i.e. on or before 6:00 p.m. on 1 December 2016)**. If applicants / applicant organisations fail to provide accurate data as requested in the application form 10 days before the polling day, their application to conduct exit poll may not be processed.

Notification of Application Result

Applicants / Applicant organisations will be notified of the result of their applications before the polling day. If no reply is received 7 days after the submission of the application, please call the Enquiry Hotline at 2891 1001.

Publication of Approved Applications

A notice showing the names of persons or organisations approved to conduct exit poll together with their contact telephone numbers will be released prior to the polling day for reference by the public and candidates. The notice will also be displayed at the respective polling stations on the polling day.

Requirements and Guidelines for Conduct of Exit Poll

The REO will notify the persons or organisations approved to conduct exit poll to collect identification devices bearing the name of the applicant / applicant organisation and the names of the respective interviewers. Each interviewer **must** display on his / her body prominently the identification device during the conduct of exit poll. He / She must also adopt the “Standard Script for Interviewers Conducting Exit Poll” at **Annex** at the start of the interview in order to make known to the electors the name of the person or organisation conducting the exit poll, the exit poll is not commissioned by the Government and any response is entirely voluntary.

Any person not displaying on his / her body prominently the identification device will **not** be allowed to conduct exit poll outside any polling station.

If applicants / applicant organisations intend to conduct the exit poll on any private land outside polling stations (including private land inside the No Canvassing Zone), they must also separately seek the **prior** approval from the owners / management concerned **by themselves**.

Applicants / Applicant organisations and the persons who will be assigned to conduct exit poll at the polling station must comply with all the requirements and guidelines for conduct of exit poll promulgated by the Electoral Affairs Commission and the REO.

Enquiries

For enquiries relating to applications for conduct of exit poll, please call the Election Hotline of the REO at 2891 1001 during office hours, or email to reoeng@reo.gov.hk.

Registration and Electoral Office
October 2016