Application Guidelines for Conduct of Exit Poll in the 2016 Legislative Council New Territories East Geographical Constituency By-election

Any person or organisation intending to conduct exit poll in the 2016 Legislative Council New Territories East Geographical Constituency By-election must complete the prescribed application form and submit 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 exit poll on the polling day;
- (b) the name and identity document ^(Note) number 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 assigned to conduct the exit poll at each polling station on the polling day together with the name and identity document (Note) number of each of the persons who will be so deployed; and
- (d) the name of the polling stations at which the applicant / applying 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 Legislative Council New Territories East Geographical Constituency By-election should 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 should 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 applying 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 3 of the Legislative Councils Ordinance (Cap. 542), "identity document" means -

⁽a) an identity card issued to a person under the Registration of Persons Ordinance (Cap.177); or

⁽b) a document issued to a person under regulations in force under that Ordinance 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 to the Electoral Registration Officer as proof of the person's identity.

Submission of Application

Applicants / Applying organisations must submit the <u>original</u> of the completed application form with the statutory declaration <u>in person or by post</u> 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 18 February 2016). If applicants / applying organisations do not provide accurate data as requested in the application form 10 days before the polling day, the REO may not be able to process their application to conduct exit poll.

Notice of Application Result

Applicants / Applying organisations will be notified of the outcome 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 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 of the public and candidates of the election. 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 / applying organisation and the names of the respective interviewers. Each interviewer <u>must</u> 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 <u>Annex</u> 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 / applying organisations intend to conduct the exit poll on any private land outside polling stations, they should also separately seek the **prior** approval from the owners / management concerned **by themselves**.

Enquiries

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

Registration and Electoral Office December 2015