The Combined Polling Arrangements — Polling Stations for Various Types of Electors in a Legislative Council General Election

- 1. A Legislative Council ("LegCo") general election consists of elections of 10 geographical constituencies ("GCs"), 28 functional constituencies ("FCs") and the Election Committee constituency ("ECC").
- 2. Elections of GCs adopt the "double seats and single vote" voting system, i.e. there are 2 seats in each GC and each elector may vote for 1 candidate on the ballot paper. The 2 candidates who obtain the greatest numbers of votes will be returned as the LegCo members of the relevant GC. For FCs, the "first past the post" voting system applies. Electors for an FC may vote for candidates up to the number of seats to be elected for the relevant FC. Candidates who obtain the greatest numbers of votes shall be returned in the election. For the ECC, the "block vote" voting system is adopted, i.e. each elector shall vote for no more or no less than 40 candidates on the ballot paper. A ballot paper marked with more than or less than 40 choices will be considered invalid. The 40 candidates who obtain the greatest numbers of votes shall be returned in the election.
- 3. An elector can simply be an elector for a GC, whereas an individual elector in an FC must be a registered GC elector who has also been registered as an elector in the FC and remains qualified to be so registered. An elector for the ECC must be a member of the Election Committee ("EC") and must also be a registered GC elector.
- 4. A person cannot be an elector for more than one of the FCs.
- 5. All electors for the 10 GCs are individual electors. Meanwhile, there are corporate electors in some of the 28 FCs. To vote in the relevant FC, a corporate elector must appoint an authorised representative ("AR") to cast the vote on its behalf. An AR must be a GC elector (see para. 3.22 of Chapter 3). A person who is an AR of a corporate elector in one FC cannot be appointed as the AR of a corporate elector in another FC, but he/she can be an elector in another FC. Therefore, a person can be an elector in an FC and also an AR in another FC.
- 6. An elector needs to go to one polling station only to cast all the votes to which he/she is entitled. Under the combined polling

arrangements, each GC elector is allocated to a polling station according to his/her residential address in the final register for GCs, save for registered electors imprisoned or held in custody by the law enforcement agencies who will be assigned to vote at the dedicated polling stations as appropriate. At the polling station or dedicated polling station, the number of ballot papers to be issued to an elector will be in accordance with his/her overall entitlement as a GC elector, an FC elector, an AR for an FC and/or an ECC elector. No separate polling stations will be designated for FCs, and hence FC electors and ARs will have to cast their votes at the polling stations designated for GCs. ECC electors will have to cast their votes at the polling station designated for the ECC.

- 7. A colour cardboard attached with a chop of the tick "✓" sign will be provided to an elector/AR when he/she is issued with one or more ballot papers. The colour coding will help check if all the ballot papers collected by the elector/AR have been put into the ballot boxes before he/she leaves the polling station. A green cardboard stands for 1 GC ballot paper only; a red cardboard for 1 GC ballot paper and 1 FC ballot paper; a blue cardboard for 1 GC ballot paper and 2 FC ballot papers; a white cardboard for 1 GC ballot paper and 1 ECC ballot paper; an orange cardboard for 1 GC ballot paper, 1 FC ballot paper and 1 ECC ballot paper, 2 FC ballot papers and 1 ECC ballot paper. The cardboard with the chop must be handed back to the polling staff manning the ballot boxes after the elector/AR has put his/her ballot papers into the ballot boxes before leaving the polling station.
- 8. 2 or 3 kinds of ballot boxes (as the case may be) in different colours will be provided in each polling station:
 - (a) ballot box for GCs;
 - (b) ballot box for FCs (combined); and
 - (c) ballot box for the ECC.
- 9. Overall, 6 scenarios may arise under the aforementioned polling arrangements. The scenarios are individually explained below, and then summarised in table form for easy reference.

THE 6 SCENARIOS

At a local GC polling station, the ECC polling station or a dedicated polling station:

- 1. **A** GC elector who is entitled to vote in respect of his/her GC only—1 GC ballot paper for the relevant GC. [The person shall insert his/her GC ballot paper into the GC ballot box.]
- 2. **An FC elector/AR** 1 GC ballot paper for the relevant GC + 1 FC ballot paper. [The person shall insert his/her GC ballot paper into the GC ballot box and his/her FC ballot paper into the FC ballot box.]
- 3. **An FC elector who is also an AR of another FC** 1 GC ballot paper for the relevant GC + 1 FC ballot paper + 1 FC ballot paper as an AR. [The person shall insert his/her GC ballot paper into the GC ballot box, and both his/her two FC ballot papers into the FC ballot box.]
- 4. An ECC elector (i.e. a member of the EC) 1 GC ballot paper for the relevant GC + 1 ECC ballot paper. [The person shall insert his/her GC ballot paper into the GC ballot box, and his/her ECC ballot paper into the ECC ballot box.]
- 5. **An ECC elector who is also an FC elector** 1 GC ballot paper for the relevant GC + 1 ECC ballot paper + 1 FC ballot paper. [The person shall insert his/her GC ballot paper into the GC ballot box, his/her ECC ballot paper into the ECC ballot box and his/her FC ballot paper into the FC ballot box.]
- 6. An ECC elector who is also an FC elector and an AR of another FC 1 GC ballot paper for the relevant GC + 1 ECC ballot paper + 1 FC ballot paper as an AR. [The person shall insert his/her GC ballot paper into the GC ballot box, his/her ECC ballot paper into the ECC ballot box and both his/her two FC ballot papers into the FC ballot box.]

The 6 Scenarios under the Polling Arrangements

Type of Elector/AR			No. of Ballot	Cardboard
GC	FC	ECC	Papers Issued	Issued
Yes			1	Green
Yes	Elector or AR		2	Red
Yes	Elector and AR		3	Blue
Yes		Yes	2	White
Yes	Elector or AR	Yes	3	Orange
Yes	Elector and AR	Yes	4	Purple

[Amended in January 2010, June 2012, June 2016 and October 2021]