

Guidance Note on Safe Conduct of Election-related Activities**General**

1. This guidance note provides general safety recommendations on various election-related activities for reference. In general, individuals who have safety concern about election-related activities (including personal safety) should consider seeking professional advice from local police station prior to conducting the activity.

Election Meetings

2. S 8 of The Public Order Ordinance (Cap. 245) and Part III of Chapter 11 of the 'Guidelines on Election-related Activities in respect of the Legislative Council Election' stipulates the circumstances under which the Police is to be notified when a meeting is held in a public place, and the procedures to be followed.

3. Irrespective of whether an election meeting is required to be notified to the Police, for safety, candidates should be mindful of the reactions of attendees and the on-site situation, so as to minimise the potential for confrontation and/or the harassment of candidates by the attendees. At the same time, candidates should consider communicating with the person in charge of the premises or the management office and make proper arrangements on meeting details before holding the election meetings, to ensure that the meeting can be conducted in a safe manner.

Election Forums

4. In addition to the provisions of Part III of Chapter 12 of the 'Guidelines on Election-related Activities in respect of the Legislative Council Election', organisers of election forums should be aware of situations where harassment of candidates may occur.

5. If an election forum is to be held at private premises, the organiser should in advance arrange for appropriate security measures with the owners, occupiers, owners' corporations, building management offices concerned, which include consideration of hiring security guards to station at the venue.

Electioneering at Living or Working Places of Electors

6. Chapter 10 of the 'Guidelines on Election-related Activities in respect of the Legislative Council Election' provides guidance on the conduct of electioneering activities at the living or working places of electors, etc.

7. If the owners or owners' corporations allow candidates to conduct electioneering activities, they can set out the event time and other reasonable conditions, so as to minimise the potential for confrontation and the harassment of candidates by attendees.

8. Before the commencement of the electioneering activities, candidates should inform the relevant management office and comply with the instructions of the venue manager during the activity, so as to ensure the safety of the participants. At the same time, in order to avoid conflicts, candidates and their teams should avoid publicity activities involving loud noise or bright lights as far as possible, so as to avoid disturbing the owners, tenants and occupants of the premises.