



Free legal advice for prospective candidates of LegCo Election

The following is issued on behalf of the Electoral Affairs Commission:

People intending to run in September's Legislative Council (LegCo) election can apply for free legal advice from today (March 19) to find out if they are qualified to be nominated as a candidate.

Two Senior Counsels, Mr Lawrence Lok Ying-kam and Mr Wong Ching-yue, a barrister, Mr Ho Bing-kwan, and a solicitor, Mr Anson Kan Kam-choy, are each appointed a Nominations Advisory Committee to provide the advice.

The Gazette today announced their appointment by the Electoral Affairs Commission (EAC) for the period from March 19 to August 6.

"In previous elections, prospective candidates found this service very useful as they could clarify their position before they planned and conducted their election campaigns," an EAC spokesman said.

Applications must be made on a specified form and sent to the Chief Electoral Officer, Room 1507, 15/F., Guardian House, 32 Oi Kwan Road, Wan Chai, in person, by post or by fax at 2803 5665.

The deadline for applications is July 21, one day before the nomination period starts.

Nominations for the election will be accepted between July 22 and August 4.

Application forms are available at District Offices of the Home Affairs Department, and the Registration and Electoral Office at 10/F., Guardian House, 32 Oi Kwan Road, Wan Chai, and 10/F., Harbour Centre, 25 Harbour Road, Wan Chai.

Applicants can also download the form at the EAC website (www.gov.hk/eac). Enquiries may be made on 2891 1001.

Returning Officers, who are responsible for determining

the validity of nominations, may also seek advice from the Nominations Advisory Committees.

In the election on September 12, 30 members will be returned by geographical constituencies and another 30 by functional constituencies to the Legislative Council.

Ends/Friday, March 19, 2004

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