

# 選舉事務處

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## LC Paper No. CB(2)672/04-05(02) REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL OFFICE

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14 January 2005

The Honourable Miss Margaret Ng  
Member of Legislative Council  
Room 116, New Henry House  
10 Ice House Street  
Hong Kong

Dear Miss Ng,

### **“TENDERED” ballot papers**

Thank you for your letter dated 29 December 2004 on the above subject addressed to Mr LI Wing, Chief Electoral Officer. Mr LI has been posted out of the Registration and Electoral Office on 30 December 2004 and I have taken up the post of Chief Electoral Officer with effect from the same date.

As requested, we have further examined available records on the “TENDERED” ballot papers of the Geographical Constituencies of the 2004 Legislative Council Election. The relevant information is reproduced in the following table:

<b>Geographical Constituency</b>	<b>Total number of “TENDERED” ballot papers issued</b>	<b>Number of polling stations involved</b>
Hong Kong Island	24	19

Kowloon West	19	15
Kowloon East	28	18
New Territories West	28	24
New Territories East	24	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>96</b>

It can be seen that a total of 123 “TENDERED” ballot papers were issued for the Geographical Constituencies of the 2004 Legislative Council Election . This number represents a very small percentage (0.0069%) of the voter turnout for the 2004 Election.

The above table also shows that the 123 “TENDERED’ ballot papers were issued at 96 different polling stations located in the five Geographical Constituencies. For the 96 polling stations in question, the number of “TENDERED” ballot papers issued does not exceed three at any polling station. The details are as follows –

	Number of “TENDERED” ballot papers issued at the polling station			No “TENDERED” ballot paper issued
	1	2	3	
Number of polling station	74	17	5	405

Based on the information set out in the above tables, it would appear that the issue of 123 “TENDERED” ballot papers at 96 different polling stations are isolated and unrelated cases.

Regarding your request for a breakdown of the profile (e.g. age group) of those electors who were issued with “TENDERED” ballot paper, I regret that we have difficulty to accede to the request. Such information is only available on the marked copies of the final register

which have been sealed in separate packets by polling staff upon close of poll in accordance with sections 63 and 63A of the Electoral Affairs Commission (Electoral Procedure) (Legislative Council) Regulation, Cap. 541D. The marked copies of the final register, together with other electoral documents, have been returned to the Chief Electoral Officer after the count and are being kept in the Chief Electoral Officer's custody. As the marked copies of the final register contains personal information of electors and whether an elector has or has not voted, the long standing practice is that the sealed registers are not open for inspection without compelling reasons. I trust you would appreciate that the Chief Electoral Officer has a duty to treat such documents and the associated information with the strictest confidence.

Yours sincerely,

(LAM Man-ho)

Chief Electoral Officer

c.c. Clerk to Legislative Council Panel on Constitutional Affairs  
(Attn: Mrs Percy MA)  
Secretary for Constitutional Affairs  
(Attn: Miss May CHAN)