

Legislative Council Panel on Constitutional Affairs

**Information Note on
Preparation for the 2010 Legislative Council By-election**

INTRODUCTION

At the meeting of the Legislative Council (“LegCo”) Panel on Constitutional Affairs held on 19 April 2010, a Member requested the Administration to provide an update in early May on its preparation for the 2010 LegCo By-election.

2. This note informs Members of the progress of the preparatory work for the upcoming LegCo By-election.

POLLING ARRANGEMENTS

Polling Stations

3. As stated in the LC Paper No. CB(2)1289/09-10(03) discussed at the meeting on 19 April 2010, around 520 ordinary polling stations and 27 dedicated polling stations (“DPSs”)¹ will be set up for the 2010 LegCo By-election. The poll cards (which notify electors of the date, time and place of the poll) and the candidates’ introductory leaflets have been sent to all electors, including electors under the custody of the Correctional Services Department (“CSD”), by 3 May 2010.

Ballot Papers

4. The candidates of the 2010 LegCo By-election have checked the accuracy of the final proofs of the ballot papers that are now being printed. We will also conduct a full-scale checking on the ballot papers to ensure that they are correctly and properly printed.

¹ Amongst the 27 DPSs, 23 of them will be set up at the penal institutions of the Correctional Services Department while four of them will be set up at the police stations across the territory.

Training for Electoral Staff

5. Briefing sessions for the 14,600 electoral staff are being conducted to equip them with the necessary knowledge for discharging their polling and counting duties. Special briefing sessions have also been arranged for the staff of the CSD and the electoral staff assigned to the DPSs in order to familiarise themselves with the polling arrangements at the DPSs.

Other Arrangements

6. We have printed address labels of electors for 21 candidates upon their request while two candidates requested a soft copy of the addresses only. As at 30 April 2010, the Post Office has sent postage-free election mail for 11 candidates.

7. The preparatory work for the setting up of a media centre, a central command centre and 18 emergency depots is progressing smoothly. We have also drawn up a comprehensive contingency plan, modelled on the plan for the 2008 LegCo Election, to deal with various kinds of incidents on the polling day.

CONCLUSION

8. Members are invited to note the progress of the preparation work for the 2010 LegCo By-election as set out in this information note.