

**Response to Issues Raised by the Subcommittee on
subsidiary legislation relating to District Councils election
at the meeting on 15 June 1999**

C1: Whether a candidate who is usually known by a name different from that shown on the candidate's identity document should be allowed to include that different name in the nomination form. (Regulation 12(6)(a) refers)

A1: By allowing a candidate to include in the nomination form his name by which he is usually known, the EAC hopes to facilitate electors in identifying the candidate whose name as shown on his identity document may not be as well known, or may be even unknown, to electors. The EAC considers that candidates should be allowed the latitude. However, having regard to the Subcommittee's concern that the proposed provision may be prone to abuse, the EAC would not have any objection if the Subcommittee amends the provision.

C2: Whether a candidate and his election agent could be allowed to greet electors in the "no canvassing zone".

A2: The EAC considers that the present guidelines on the prohibition of canvassing activities in the no canvassing zone have worked well in past elections. The arrangement has significantly minimised disputes that might have arisen if canvassing activities were allowed. More importantly, electors have been able to enjoy a free and safe passage into the polling station without being unduly harassed on their way in. If a candidate and his election agent are allowed to greet electors and canvass votes in the no canvassing zone, serious enforcement problems will be caused for the Presiding Officers and their staff. This is most undesirable. The EAC, however, sees no reason why a candidate and his election agent cannot put up a smiling face without canvassing votes when present in the no canvassing zone or inside the polling station.

Registration and Electoral Office

19 June 1999