

**Procedure for election of the chairmen and deputy chairmen of the  
Public Accounts Committee and the Committee on Rules of Procedure**  
(Endorsed by the House Committee on 4 July 2025)

The elections of the chairmen and deputy chairmen of the Public Accounts Committee and the Committee on Rules of Procedure (hereinafter each referred to as “committee”) shall follow the procedures set out below.

**Nomination procedure**

Submission of nominations

2. After the members<sup>1</sup> of the committee in each term of the Legislative Council have been elected, the member who has the highest precedence shall be responsible for calling a meeting (“scheduled meeting”) for the elections of the chairman and deputy chairman. The clerk shall invite nominations from members.

3. Nominations for the office of chairman shall be submitted via electronic means specified by the Legislative Council Secretariat (“Secretariat”). A valid nomination shall be made by a member, seconded by at least one other member, and accepted by the member being nominated.

4. The name of a member shall not appear on more than one submission of nomination for the office of chairman, whether in the capacity as a member being nominated, or as a member making the nomination, or as a member seconding the nomination; otherwise, only the first such nomination received by the Secretariat shall be valid. However, a member may nominate himself for the office of chairman, provided that such nomination is seconded by at least one other member. In such a case, the name of the member concerned will appear on a submission of nomination in the capacities as a member making the nomination and a member being nominated. The Secretariat shall notify the member who submitted any invalid nomination(s).

5. Nominations for the office of chairman shall reach the Secretariat at least one clear day before the scheduled meeting. If the deadline for submission of nomination falls on a Saturday or public holiday, the deadline

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<sup>1</sup> In this procedure, the term “member” includes a member elected in accordance with the election procedure determined by the House Committee who is yet to be appointed or has been appointed by the President.

shall be advanced to the first preceding day that is not a Saturday or public holiday.

6. The requirements set out in paragraphs 3 to 5 above shall also apply to submission of nominations for the office of deputy chairman.

After the close of nominations

7. Upon the close of the nomination period, the clerk to the committee (“clerk”) shall prepare a list of valid nominations for the offices of chairman and deputy chairman (if any) in the order of receipt by the Secretariat and shall distribute the list to members before the scheduled meeting. If there is more than one valid nomination for the office of chairman and/or deputy chairman, the election shall be conducted in accordance with the arrangements set out in paragraphs 9 to 21 below.

8. In the cases set out in (a) and (b) in this paragraph, the election of chairman and/or deputy chairman will not be required to be conducted at the scheduled meeting –

- (a) if there is only one valid nomination for the office of chairman, the nominee shall be deemed to be elected as chairman. If there is no valid nomination for the office of chairman, the member who has the highest precedence in the committee shall be deemed to be elected as chairman; or
- (b) if there is only one valid nomination for the office of deputy chairman, the nominee shall be deemed to be elected as deputy chairman. If there is no valid nomination for the office of deputy chairman, the member who has the highest precedence in the committee shall be deemed to be elected as deputy chairman after the chairman is elected. However, if the election of chairman is required to be conducted at the scheduled meeting, the only valid nominee for the office of deputy chairman/the member who has the highest precedence in the committee (as the case may be) shall be declared elected as deputy chairman after the chairman is elected.

The clerk shall notify members in writing of the election result(s) and updated meeting arrangements. In the case where neither the election of chairman nor the election of deputy chairman is required to be conducted at the scheduled meeting, the scheduled meeting shall be deemed to be cancelled.

## **Election of chairman**

9. If there is **more than one valid nomination** for the office of chairman, the **election** of chairman shall be conducted at the scheduled meeting.

### Presiding member

10. Subject to paragraph 11 below, the member present who has the highest precedence among the members not nominated for the office of chairman shall preside at the election.

11. For the election to fill a vacancy in the office of chairman during a term, the deputy chairman shall preside at the election. If the deputy chairman is absent or is being nominated for the office, the member present who has the highest precedence among the members not nominated for the office of chairman shall preside at the election.

### Balloting process

12. The presiding member shall proceed straight to balloting in accordance with the procedures prescribed below. The presiding member may deal with matters necessary for the conduct of such procedures, but he shall not hear points of order or entertain any motion including a motion to establish the manner in which the committee wishes to proceed with the election. Nominees shall not present election platforms or answer questions from members.

13. The presiding member shall announce a vote by secret ballot and shall order the clerk to distribute a ballot paper to each of the members present, including the presiding member. Each nominee shall be assigned a nominee number according to the order set out in the list of valid nominations.

14. A member present who wishes to vote shall mark on a ballot paper using a chop with a “✓” in the box opposite the nominee number of his choice, and place the ballot paper into the ballot box. Any ballot paper not marked, not properly marked, or marked with a “✓” in the respective boxes opposite two or more nominee numbers shall be discarded.

15. After all the members present who wish to vote have done so, the clerk shall count the ballot papers in front of all the members present and report the result to the presiding member, who shall check the result for confirmation. The presiding member shall invite the members making the nominations or seconding the nominations to witness the counting of votes.

16. The presiding member shall declare elected as chairman the nominee who receives the highest number of valid votes among all the nominees.

17. If two or more nominees receive the same highest number of valid votes, the presiding member shall announce that lots will be drawn by him to decide how he shall give the casting vote in respect of these nominees.

18. The presiding member shall then draw lots and give the casting vote to one of the nominees in accordance with the lot drawn, and shall forthwith declare that nominee elected as chairman.

### **Election of deputy chairman**

19. If there is **more than one valid nomination** for the office of deputy chairman, the **election** of deputy chairman shall be conducted at the scheduled meeting.

### Presiding member

20. The chairman of the committee shall preside at the election. If the chairman is absent, the member present who has the highest precedence among the members not nominated for the office of deputy chairman shall preside at the election.

### Balloting process

21. The balloting process set out in paragraphs 12 to 18 above shall also apply to the election of deputy chairman.