

**Procedure for Election of the Chairman and
Deputy Chairman of a Committee**

The election of the chairman and deputy chairman of a committee shall be conducted at a meeting of the committee.

Election of chairman

Presiding member

2. For the House Committee and Panels —

- (a) Where the election takes place at the first meeting of the House Committee or a Panel in a term of the Legislative Council, the member present who has the highest precedence shall preside at the election. If he is being nominated for the office, the member present who has the highest precedence among the members not nominated for the office shall preside;
- (b) At any other election of chairman, the member who was the chairman of the House Committee or the Panel before the election shall preside at the election. If he is absent or is being nominated for the office, the member who was deputy chairman of the House Committee or the Panel before the election shall preside. If both members who were chairman and deputy chairman before the election are absent or are being nominated for the office, the member present who has the highest precedence shall preside. If he is being nominated for the office, the member present who has the highest precedence among the members not nominated for the office shall preside.

3. For bills committees and subcommittees —

- (a) for the election of chairman at the first meeting of the committee concerned, the member present who has the highest precedence shall preside at the election. If he is being nominated for the office, the member present who has the highest precedence among the members not nominated for the office shall preside;
- (b) for the election to fill a vacancy in the office of chairman, the deputy chairman, if any, shall preside at the election. If the committee concerned does not have a deputy chairman or if the deputy chairman is absent or is being nominated for the office, the member present who has the highest precedence shall preside at the election. If he is being nominated for the office, the member present who has the highest precedence among the members not nominated for the office shall preside.

Election procedure

4. At the start of the election, the presiding member shall call for nominations for the chairmanship. A valid nomination shall be made orally by a member, seconded by at least one other member who should not be the member being nominated, and accepted by the member being nominated. A member who nominates an absent member for the office is required to state that the absent member's acceptance of the nomination has been secured.
5. If the presiding member is being nominated for the office, he shall be replaced in accordance with paragraph 2 or 3 above, as appropriate, unless otherwise decided by the committee.
6. If there is only one nomination, the presiding member shall declare the nominee elected as chairman.
7. If there are two or more nominations, 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 of their nominations made during the election.
8. 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.
9. 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.
10. The presiding member shall declare elected as chairman the nominee who receives the highest number of valid votes among all the nominees.
11. 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.
12. 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

Presiding member

13. The Member to preside at the election of the deputy chairman of a committee is the chairman thereof. If he is absent, the incumbent deputy chairman, if any, shall preside. If no deputy chairman is present or if the deputy chairman is being nominated for the office, the Member present who has the highest precedence shall preside. If such a Member is being nominated for the office, the Member present who has the highest precedence among the Members not nominated for the office shall preside.

Election procedure

14. The presiding member shall call for nominations for the deputy chairmanship. A valid nomination shall be made orally by a member, seconded by at least one other member who should not be the member being nominated, and accepted by the member being nominated. A member who nominates an absent member for the office is required to state that the absent member's acceptance of the nomination has been secured.

15. If there is only one nomination, the presiding member shall declare the nominee elected as deputy chairman.

16. If there are two or more nominations, 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 chairman. Each nominee shall be assigned a nominee number according to the order of their nominations made during the election.

17. 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.

18. 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.

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

20. 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.

21. 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 deputy chairman.

