Finance Committee Follow up on issues raised at the meeting on 16 June 2012

Guidelines on Election-related Activities in respect of the Legislative Council Election

As requested by members at the meeting on 16 June 2012, this paper provides information concerning the guidelines on the participation in election-related activities of the Legislative Council ("LegCo") election by civil servants and officials under the political appointment system.

2. The public consultation conducted by the Electoral Affairs Commission ("EAC") on the proposed guidelines on election-related activities in respect of the LegCo election was completed on 26 April 2012. The EAC will release the final guidelines soon. Similar to previous guidelines, the guidelines will provide guidance on the participation in election-related activities of the LegCo election by civil servants and officials appointed under the political appointment system.

3. The guidelines provide that civil servants who wish to participate in electioneering activities in a LegCo election should observe the regulations, rules and guidelines issued by the Civil Service Bureau. Politically appointed officials should not use any public resources for any election-related activities, and should ensure that when taking part in such activities, great care should be taken that there is no actual or potential conflict of interest with the business of the Government or their own official duties.

Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau June 2012