

Notice to Candidates
on Free Postage of Election Mail Arrangements
for 2021 Legislative Council General Election

Date of Election: 19 December 2021

‘Household’ Address Labels

For free postage of election mail, the Registration and Electoral Office (“REO”) will provide Geographical Constituencies (“GC”) candidates with a choice of collecting ‘individual’ address labels (i.e. each address label contains the information of one elector) or ‘household’ address labels (i.e. each address label contains the names of up to five electors residing at the same address. REO will provide additional address label(s) if the names of all electors at the same address cannot be accommodated on one address label.). This arrangement helps reduce the consumption of paper and other resources while allowing GC candidates to have a greater flexibility in arranging their publicity strategy. In the interest of environmental protection, we encourage GC candidates to choose ‘household’ address labels for sending election mail as this can **save about one third of the address labels and numbers of election mail apart from saving the effort and time of postmen in delivering the mail.**

[Note: The ‘household’ address labels are not applicable for candidates of the Election Committee constituency and functional constituencies.]

Here is a sample of the ‘household’ address label.

錢小花 / 鄭有財 / 歐芷清 / 歐一心 / 劉嬌嬌
FLAT C
17/F
BLOCK 2
HONG KONG BUILDING
HONG KONG
LC1 A01 C/E H03359 00579 GPO.GPO01

GC candidates should observe the requirements on the weight, size and thickness of the letter to be sent free of postage as stipulated in section 101A(1)(c), (d) and (e) of the Electoral Affairs Commission (Electoral Procedure)(Legislative Council) Regulation (Cap. 541D), which are equally applicable to letters addressed to an ‘individual’ elector and a ‘household’ of electors. GC candidates can indicate their choice of using ‘individual’ or ‘household’ address labels in the “Notice for Collection of Electors’ Information” (this Notice will be uploaded to the REO website on 30 October 2021 and enclosed in the candidates’ folder available on 30 October 2021 when nomination period starts). Once a GC candidate has indicated to send a letter by using the ‘household’ address label, free postage of further election mail addressed to individual electors of that household (i.e. those electors who have been addressed in the ‘household’ address label) will **not** be permitted.

Joint Election Mail

In accordance with section 43 of the Legislative Council Ordinance (Cap. 542), each validly nominated candidate for the GC, Functional Constituency (“FC”) and Election Committee Constituency (“ECC”) is permitted to post one election mail to each registered elector of his/her GC or FC, or to each Election Committee (“EC”) member free of postage. To enable candidates to jointly promote themselves and as a further step to reduce paper consumption, the law allows candidates to send joint election mail free of postage in specified circumstances as depicted below:

- (a) A candidate who is validly nominated for a GC (LC1 to LC10) may send one joint election mail to each elector together with another candidate who is also validly nominated for the same GC.

Candidate A in LC1/GC	+	Candidate B in LC1/GC	=	Yes
Candidate A in LC1/GC	+	Two or more Candidates in LC1/GC	=	No
Candidate A in LC1/GC	+	Any Candidate(s) in Other GCs	=	No
Candidate A in LC1/GC	+	Any Candidate(s) in FCs	=	No
Candidate A in LC1/GC	+	Any Candidate(s) in ECC	=	No

- (b) A candidate who is validly nominated for the labour FC may send joint election mail together with any other candidate(s) (up to two) who is/are also validly nominated for that FC.

Candidate B in Labour FC	+	One/Two Candidate(s) in Labour FC	=	Yes
Candidate B in Labour FC	+	Any Candidate(s) in GCs	=	No
Candidate B in Labour FC	+	Any Candidate(s) in Other FCs	=	No
Candidate B in Labour FC	+	Any Candidate(s) in ECC	=	No

- (c) A candidate who is validly nominated for the ECC may send joint election mail together with any other candidate(s) (up to thirty-nine) who is/are also validly nominated for the ECC.

Candidate C In ECC	+	Any Other Candidate(s) (up to 39) in ECC	=	Yes
Candidate C in ECC	+	Any Candidate(s) in GCs	=	No
Candidate C in ECC	+	Any Candidate(s) in FCs	=	No

Saving Papers and Other Resources

Example A

An illustration (with electors' figures drawn from the 2020 Final Register of Electors) is appended below for reference only.

Two candidates for the New Territories South West GC (i.e. LC9) originally plan to send election mail separately to each elector. In that case, they have to send about 515,000 mail each and altogether about 1,030,000 mail. If they choose to send joint election mail, they only need to send about 515,000 mail (i.e. reduced by half). If they simultaneously choose to use 'household' address labels, they only need to send about 300,000 mail saving altogether about 730,000 mail (i.e. reduced by about 70%).

Example B

Forty ECC candidates originally plan to send election mail separately to each EC member. In that case, they have to send about 1,500 mail each and altogether about 60,000 mail. If they choose to send joint election mail, they only need to send about 1,500 mail saving altogether about 58,500 mail (i.e. reduced by over 90%).

As illustrated in the above examples, by using joint election mail (and, for GC candidates, 'household' address labels), apart from reducing considerable number of mail, saving papers and contributing to environmental protection, candidates can also use the election expenses saved for other electioneering activities.

Further Information

Candidates may wish to refer to Chapter 9 of the "Guidelines on Election-related Activities in respect of the Legislative Council Election", the Legislative Council Ordinance (Cap. 542) and the Electoral Affairs Commission (Electoral Procedure)(Legislative Council) Regulation (Cap. 541D) for details to learn more about the above arrangements.

For enquiries, please call REO Hotline at 2891 1001.

Registration and Electoral Office
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