

## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### **Section 1 : The Responsibility of the Electoral Affairs Commission**

1.1 Under section 4(a) of the Electoral Affairs Commission Ordinance (“EACO”) (Cap 541), one of the functions of the Electoral Affairs Commission (“EAC” or “Commission”) is to consider and review the boundaries of district council constituencies for the purpose of making recommendations on the boundaries and names of constituencies for a District Council (“DC”) ordinary election.

1.2 The Commission is required under section 18 of the EACO to submit a report to the Chief Executive (“CE”) on its recommendations for DC constituencies not more than 36 months from the preceding DC ordinary election. As the last DC ordinary election was held on 6 November 2011, the EAC should submit its report and recommendations to the CE by 5 November 2014.

1.3 Under section 21 of the EACO, the CE-in-Council shall consider the Commission’s report as soon as practicable after receiving the report. Subject to the CE-in-Council’s approval and the completion of the negative vetting procedure of the Legislative Council (“LegCo”), the boundaries and names proposed by the Commission would be adopted for the DC ordinary election to be held in November 2015.

## **Section 2 : Increase in the number of elected seats and adjustment to the district boundaries**

1.4 Delineation of the DC constituencies is based on the total number of elected seats for the next DC ordinary election and the existing district boundaries.

1.5 After undertaking an overall review on the number of elected seats for each DC having regard to the population forecast in Hong Kong in mid-2015, the Administration proposed to increase 19 elected seats in nine DCs for the fifth-term DCs as follows:

- (a) one additional seat for each DC in Tsuen Wan and North;
- (b) two additional seats for each DC in Sham Shui Po, Kowloon City, Kwun Tong, Yau Tsim Mong and Sha Tin;
- (c) three additional seats for the Sai Kung DC; and
- (d) four additional seats for the Yuen Long DC.

1.6 The Administration consulted the LegCo Panel on Constitutional Affairs on 20 May 2013 on the proposed addition of 19 elected seats for the 2015 DC ordinary election. A motion was moved at

the LegCo meeting on 6 November 2013 for the approval of the District Councils Ordinance (Amendment of Schedule 3) Order 2013 to implement this proposal. The Order was approved by the LegCo on the same day and published in the Gazette on 8 November 2013.

1.7 After consultation, the Administration also proposed adjustment to the boundaries of the Eastern and Wan Chai Districts by transferring the Tin Hau and Victoria Park district council constituency areas (“DCCAs”) from the Eastern District to the Wan Chai District and a corresponding amendment to the number of elected seats of the two DCs from the fifth term DCs onwards (including for the 2015 DC ordinary election). A resolution to implement the proposal by the District Councils Ordinance (Amendment of Schedules 1 and 3) Order 2013 was passed by the LegCo on 22 January 2014 and the approved Order was published in the Gazette on 24 January 2014.

1.8 Following the LegCo’s approval for the two Orders as mentioned in paras 1.6 and 1.7 above, the total number of elected seats for the 2015 DC ordinary election was increased by 19 from 412 to 431 and the boundaries of the Eastern and Wan Chai Districts were adjusted to effect the transfer of the Tin Hau and Victoria Park DCCAs from the Eastern District to the Wan Chai District. Accordingly, the total number of DCCAs to be delineated by the EAC was increased to 431 as one DC member is to be elected from each constituency. The number of DCCAs to be delineated by district is set out in **Appendix I**.

### **Section 3 : Scope of the Report**

1.9 The scope and content of this report are based on the requirement stipulated under section 18 of the EACO. The report is published in three volumes. **Volume 1** primarily describes how the proposed delineation of the boundaries of DCCAs was worked out and sets out the Commission's recommendations on the boundaries and the names of the DCCAs with the reasons for its recommendations. **Volume 2** contains the maps of all the districts showing the proposed boundaries and names of the DCCAs in each district and the related boundary descriptions. **Volume 3** records all written representations.