

## CHAPTER 6

### THE PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS; THE RECOMMENDATIONS : DECISIONS WITH REASONS

#### Section 1 : The Public Representations

6.1 During the consultation period between 11 and 24 October 1997, the Commission received a total of 104 written representations on its provisional recommendations. The Commission also had 9 meetings, by prior appointment, with organisations and individuals over its provisional recommendations in the period between 14 and 21 October 1997. A copy each of all the written representations and the minutes of the meetings summarising all the views expressed thereat can be found in **Appendix IV**.

6.2 The Commission had appealed to the public in its publicity materials for inviting representations that not only those who were dissatisfied, but also those who were satisfied, with the Commission's provisional recommendations should come forward and make their views known. This was for the purpose of ensuring that as many views on the provisional recommendations should be known to the Commission. If only representations opposing or criticising the provisional recommendations are sought and received, the Commission would have no way to gauge the degree of their acceptability to the public. The Commission may also alter its provisional recommendations consequent upon having considered representations opposing such recommendations, and not knowing whether the recommendations are acceptable by anyone might present an one-sided or

wrong idea to the Commission. Seeking approving voices is also to ensure that those who might be affected by any possible alteration made consequent upon an opposing representation would not be so affected without having an opportunity of addressing the Commission. It appears that the appeal bore some fruit, albeit still not to the extent satisfactory to the Commission, because some representations expressed acceptance or approval of the provisional recommendations. The Commission was thus able to have an overall view of the public opinion on the matter to arrive at a balanced decision.

6.3 All the 9 meetings were open to the public. Further, wherever practicable, notice of the appointed dates and times of the meetings and the persons who would meet with the Commission was given to the others who would meet with the Commission and the media. All of these meetings were attended by members of the media, in addition to the organisations and individuals making representations to the Commission, although there were hardly any other members of the public present.

6.4 The Chairman of the Commission also participated as a guest speaker in the City Forum held by Radio Television Hong Kong on 19 October 1997 at Victoria Park, which was televised live. The subject of the forum was Discussion on the First Legislative Council Constituency Delineation. He took the opportunity to explain the statutory criteria as well as the rationale behind the Commission's provisional recommendations to those who were present at the venue and to the television audience, while listening to various opinions expressed on the provisional recommendations. This enhanced transparency and openness.

6.5 On 23 October 1997, Members of the Commission visited Yuen

Long District to acquire a better understanding of the situation in the affected areas. The following matters were mainly examined:

- (a) the transportation links between the affected DBCAs with the rest of the Yuen Long District;
- (b) the geographical features of the north-eastern boundaries of the District; and
- (c) the strength of the feeling of the local inhabitants about community identities and local ties.

## Section 2 : Areas Covered by the Representations

6.6 Amongst those who made representations to the Commission were Heung Yee Kuk, the Yuen Long Provisional District Board, rural committees, individual councillors of various public bodies, residents' and other associations, political organisations and individuals.

6.7 It is worthy of note that there was not a single representation on Hong Kong Island being delineated as a single PDCA. It appeared that the community accepted Hong Kong Island as an integral entity. Moreover, there was generally no argument with the principles set out in Chapter 5 adopted by the Commission in delineating the PDCAs.

6.8 Of those who opposed to the Commission's provisional recommendations, many dwelled on the difference in emphasis, placing more importance on community identities, local ties, geographical features and development rather than population equality. The representations showing dissatisfaction with the provisional recommendations broadly cover the following areas which will be dealt with in turn:

- (a) general propositions and proposals;
- (b) the NTE and NTW PDCAs; and
- (c) the Kowloon PDCAs and in particular, the Kowloon East PDCA.

6.9 Before dealing with these representations, the Commission feels it important to mention one matter. There were newspaper reports on 21 and 22 October 1997 that at a meeting of the Executive Council a question was raised as to why the Commission's provisional recommendations were published without first being discussed by the Council and it was suggested that the provisional recommendations benefited the Democratic Party. In other circumstances of a less serious nature, the Commission would not pass any comment, for fear that it might be embroiled in politics or anything akin to political argument. However, the Commission feels that its stance should be made known, which is of paramount importance in the maintenance of the public's confidence and trust in the independence, impartiality and integrity of the Commission, without which the Commission's work would be rendered absolutely futile or at least meaningless.

6.10 There is grave doubt in the veracity and correctness of the newspaper reports, for not only that matters discussed in the Executive Council are confidential, but also that members of the esteemed council would not have been so unaware of the relevant legislative provisions or so unwise as to raise those alleged matters.

6.11 Pursuant to section 18 of the EAC Ordinance, the Commission shall submit its report containing recommendations on the delineation of GCs to the Chief Executive. By virtue of section 19 of the Ordinance, before submitting its report, the Commission shall publish its provisionally

determined recommendations for the purpose of enabling the public to make representations on them, and the Commission shall have regard to the representations before making recommendations under section 18. The Commission's report received by the Chief Executive shall then be considered by the Chief Executive in Council as soon as practicable after such receipt [s 21]. There is no statutory requirement that the Chief Executive in Council or the Executive Council shall have an opportunity to discuss the Commission's provisional recommendations before they are finalised and submitted to the Chief Executive after the public consultation exercise. The Commission did not apprise the Chief Executive or the Executive Council of its provisional recommendations at any time before the submission of this report.

6.12 In the deliberation on the recommendations to be made on the delineation of the LegCo GCs, the Commission acted independently and impartially. The provisional recommendations for public consultations were made by the three members of the Commission in meeting without taking into account any idea expressed by the Administration, save that the REO officers very helpfully prepared various scenarios for the Commission's consideration. The decisions of the Commission were based on the statutory criteria and the principles adopted by the Commission as set out in Chapter 5 of this report. Political matters in whatever form or manner were not taken into account. If the Commission's provisional recommendations or final recommendations happen to advance or damage the interests of some politicians or political parties, or might be thought to have that effect, it is purely coincidental and must be considered and treated as such. As the Chairman of the Commission has openly stated in the City Forum meeting held on 19 October 1997, political motives and reasons are not only irrelevant for the Commission's

consideration, but the Commission would tend to detest too much of those matters being mentioned to it.

6.13 The Commission is very pleased with the fact that no one who openly addressed the Commission criticised it for not complying with the statutory criteria or acting partially or under the influence of anybody or that it had taken into account political considerations. It is fervently hoped that the public's trust in the independence, impartially and integrity of the Commission and its apolitical stance is maintained.

### Section 3 : Representations Making General Propositions and Proposals

6.14 The Democratic Party supported the Commission's provisional recommendations. They expressed the view that the provisional recommendations had broadly complied with the statutory criteria, and the population encompassed by each PDCA was well within the allowable limit prescribed by law. They stressed that insofar as the Commission, as an independent statutory body entrusted with the power and task of delineating geographical constituencies, had complied with the statutory criteria, any suggestion made by any politician or any political organisation to vary any boundary line of the PDCA's might not be justified and might be viewed as operating for selfish political benefit or purposes. They therefore did not make any suggestion to the Commission for variation of any of the PDCA's.

6.15 The Liberal Party also expressed its acceptance of the provisional recommendations. At the City Forum on 19 October 1997, a representative of that Party also made known its support openly, with reasons similar to those given by the Democratic Party. 123 Democratic Alliance also

expressed their agreement to and support for the provisional recommendations by a written representation. Several councillors and individuals also wrote in to support the provisional recommendations.

6.16 The Democratic Alliance for the Betterment of Hong Kong (“DAB”) took the stance that so long as the Commission was consulting the public in respect of the provisional recommendations, it was proper and reasonable for DAB to participate to express its views, which could not and should not be interpreted as linked to selfish motives. DAB commented that the Commission’s provisional recommendations were not in conflict with the statutory criteria, although they could still be improved. DAB asked the Commission to consider a number of propositions as a matter of principle and guiding direction in the demarcation exercise. While community identities and local ties were important because the sense and feeling of belonging of persons in a community should be respected, the boundaries of the Districts and UC/RC Areas were less distinct than before because of the development in various places. The UC, RC and District Boards might be merged in the future. Although the law did not fix equal number of seats in a GC, GCs with the smallest number of seats, namely three seats, might dilute the intended operation and effectiveness of the proportional representation voting system applicable to the GC election. The difference in seats in the PDCAs might create a necessity to re-demarcate GCs for future elections, which was not satisfactory or desirable for electors and aspiring candidates alike. Based on all these matters, DAB suggested that equal-seat GCs should be considered by the EAC.

6.17 While fully endorsing the fundamental principle adopted by the Commission, Business and Professionals Federation (“BPF”) similarly asked

the Commission to take into consideration future political development in the delineation exercise. They requested the Commission to consider allocating the same number of seats to each of the 5 constituencies to be delineated, on the basis that it would be unfair to candidates or parties contesting in a constituency with a smaller number of seats since they would require to secure a greater proportion of votes cast. They also asked the Commission to treat the boundaries of the two municipal councils as not posing too much a constraint in demarcation.

6.18 A Provisional Legislative Councillor also expressed the view that the mere fact that unequal number of seats being allocated to different constituencies was confusing to the electors, and it was also unfair on the ground that a vote cast by an elector in a 3-seat constituency could only be in favour of 3 candidate but a vote cast by an elector in a 5-seat constituency could be in favour as many as 5 candidates.

#### Section 4 : Representations on the New Territories East and New Territories West PDCA's

6.19 The greatest dissatisfaction with the Commission's provisional recommendations was in respect of the NTE PDCA in that it included six DBCAs of the Yuen Long District, resulting in Yuen Long being split. The representations came from the San Tin Rural Committee, the Yuen Long Provisional District Board, the Shap Pat Heung Rural Committee, the Pat Heung Rural Committee, Dr The Hon TANG Siu-tong, Heung Yee Kuk and Mr Peer, who all met with the Commission by appointment. There were a number of others who made written representations with similar requests and reasons.



6.20 All these representations were in unison that they did not wish the Yuen Long District to be divided in the formation of the NTW and NTE constituencies. Their supporting reasons can be summarised as follows:

- (a) Historical and geographical aspects. The NTW area consisted of seven rural committees and the people served by these committees had close ties in historical background and communications. Dr TANG and a few others pointed out that the majority of the inhabitants of Ping Shan, Ha Tsuen and Kam Tin (one of the DBCAs proposed to join the NTE PDCA), who were indigenous people, shared the same ancestry. One letter to the Commission described Yuen Long as a large historical family. Yuen Long had been traditionally linked with Tuen Mun and people of those two Districts had all along considered the Districts as an integral entity. Geographically, Yuen Long belonged to NTW and separated from NTE by a mountain range.
- (b) Community links. Various facilities and organisations in Yuen Long, such as rural societies, business or trade organisations, village or surname clans, schools, religious bodies, medical service providers, and social welfare and voluntary agencies, had all along extensive links and connections. They together supported orders and policies of the Administration, assisted in district development and carried out social welfare activities as a whole. The inhabitants of the District had similar living habits and a strong sense of belonging. They used the transportation system linked with other parts of Yuen Long, as opposed to that in the North District or Tai Po District, despite the longer distance, and many did not even know where to find the District

Offices of the two other Districts. Yuen Long was also an integral administrative area, with branches in the District such as the District Office, police division and fire stations, and society resources were all directed to the District as an integral entity. NTW and NTE was broadly served by individual transportation link, the west by the Light Rail System in Tuen Mun and Yuen Long and the east by the Kowloon Canton Railway System. Any disturbance to the integrity of Yuen Long would cause problems and confusion to the inhabitants.

- (c) Candidate/elector relationship. Electors in Yuen Long were not accustomed to many aspects of the facilities and services in the Districts in NTE. Those in the affected DBCAs would not be familiar with candidates in the LegCo election if the candidates were not those having rendered services there. The San Tin Rural Committee stated that the LegCo member who was returned during the last election did not even have a poster or placard placed in the San Tin DBCA for facilitating inhabitants in the seeking of assistance. They used this to demonstrate that because of the relatively small population of the affected DBCAs in the context of the whole population of the NTE PDCA, little attention would be paid to the needs and requirements of the populace of the DBCAs. Due to the small population in the affected DBCAs, they feared that any candidate who was returned from the NTE constituency would not heed their views or cater for their needs. This probable consequence would be reflected in electors in the affected DBCAs losing interest in the forthcoming election, if not creating an antipathy in them towards the election. Mr Peer also made the point that where a

community was split, electors belonging to the same community but now on different sides of the boundary would feel uninterested and even disconcerted as they could not discuss about any common candidates running in the same locality.

- (d) Future development of the area. The representations also stressed that for the future development of the area including substantial infra-structure, transportation, flood-drainage and housing plans that affected Yuen Long residents, a split of the District would create difficulties and problems in consultation and coordination.
- (e) Only District Affected. Of the 18 Districts in Hong Kong, only Yuen Long was split in the delineation exercise, and that was one of the reasons that the inhabitants felt aggrieved.
- (f) Population deviation. It was emphasised that even if the Yuen Long District was allowed to remain intact as a part of the NTW constituency, the population deviation was still within the allowable limit of 15%. Further, regarding NTW, the PDCA had a minus 3.21% deviation, whereas allowing the whole of Yuen Long to be included would result in a plus 3.13% deviation, which was even smaller.

#### Section 5 : Representations on the Kowloon PDCAs

6.21 Although some newspaper reports alluded to criticisms and counter-proposals made by DAB and the Hong Kong Association for Democracy and People's Livelihood relating to the Kowloon PDCAs in the Commission's provisional recommendations, DAB did not make any such representations to the Commission when its representatives met with the

Chairman on 17 and 19 October 1997. The other organisation did not even seek any meeting with the Commission or make any representations.

6.22 The only organisation that appointed to meet with the Commission to deal with the Kowloon PDCAs was the Kowloon Federation of Associations. The Federation's views were supported by a few others in their written representations, including the Kowloon City, Kwun Tong and Wong Tai Sin Residents' Association Company Limited. The Federation stated that it had 38 member organisations comprising over 20,000 natural persons. The member organisations and personal membership consisted of residents of various parts of Kowloon. The main objection to the provisional recommendations was that whereas Kowloon enjoyed 7 seats in the LegCo Council in 1995, it was only given 6 seats this time round. While the population of Kowloon had increased since 1995, the number of seats proposed to be allocated now was reduced. That was, according to the Federation, contrary to the principle of equal representation. It was aggrieved by the unfairness towards the residents of Kowloon East PDCA caused by only 3 seats being proposed for that constituency. It urged the Commission not to lay too much emphasis on the boundaries of Districts and the UC/RC Areas, the Commission should take heed of the change of society structure resulting in the disappearance of the line between the New Territories and Kowloon. It asserted that the residents of Tseung Kwan O, an area within the Sai Kung District, had closer links with Kowloon than Sai Kung, in the administrative and transportation spheres. It suggested that the Commission should include Tseung Kwan O in the Kowloon East constituency and allow Yuen Long to remain intact, which would result in an improved equal population distribution in the NTW, NTE and Kowloon East constituencies, when NTW remained to have 5 seats, NTE altered to have 4 seats and Kowloon East also reformed to

have 4 seats.

6.23 The Federation's views were shared by the Hong Kong Society of Women which also requested the Commission to incorporate the Kwai Tsing District and the Islands District into the Kowloon West PDCA. It stated that it would be more reasonable that way as Islands and Kwai Tsing were closer to Kowloon West and the railway system planned to be built would link the 2 Districts to Kowloon West.

#### Section 6 : Treatment of the Representations

6.24 The Commission considered all the representations very carefully, and as the Commission made known during the public consultation exercise, insofar as the reasoning in support or any alternative way of delineation was more persuasive than the Commission's own in making the provisional recommendation, the Commission would be obliged to adopt the alternative.

#### Section 7 : Decisions on General Matters

6.25 No representation criticised the principles set out in Chapter 5 upon which the Commission relied in making the provisional recommendations as either wrong or unsound. No representation suggested that the Commission failed to follow the statutory criteria.

6.26 The main proposal of DAB and BPF needs examination. It suggested that not allocating an equal number of seats to each of the 5 GCs to be delineated by the Commission would affect the effective operation of the

proportional representation voting system in the GC election. In support of their suggestion to allocate equal seats in each constituency, they also stated that the Commission in its delineation exercise should take into account future development of various areas and possible future reformation of the representative government on the district level. While development of the relevant area is among the section 20(3) considerations, neither the future development of the representative government on the district level nor the effective operation of the voting system is a statutory criterion. The Commission is not persuaded that any of such matters ulterior to the statutory requirement should properly be considered. Section 19 of the Legislative Ordinance is explicit that the number of members to be returned to the LegCo from each GC shall be not less than 3 or more than 5. The Commission was given that flexibility without any limitation.

6.27 With that allowed flexibility in mind, the reasoning that an unequal number of seats in different constituencies would cause unfairness to candidates sounds abstruse, but surely unmathematical. The most important statutory criterion is practical population equality, aiming at equal representation of the population, as opposed to the electors. It is true that a candidate in a 5-seat constituency would only require one-fifth of the votes cast to get elected, whereas one in a 3-seat constituency would need to get one-third (a larger proportion) of the votes cast to be successful. To label this phenomenon being unfair is to ignore the relevant factor that there would, in normal circumstances, be more electors in the larger constituency and one-fifth of the votes cast there should mathematically be as difficult (or easy) to get as one-third of the votes cast in the smaller constituency. The sophistication of the proposition is, however, overshadowed by a cryptic argument presented in a representation, which claimed that it was unfair for an

elector's vote in a 3-seat constituency to go in favour of 3 candidates, whereas an elector's vote in a 5-seat constituency could have the added advantage of favouring 5 candidates. Anyhow, the statutory criterion is population based and not elector based.

### Section 8 : Decisions on the Kowloon LCCAs

6.28 The main grievance expressed by the Kowloon Federation of Associations and others who made similar representations was that while Kowloon had 7 seats in the 1995 LegCo GC election, the Commission only allocated 6 seats for the whole of Kowloon, being 3 seats in the Kowloon West PDCA and another 3 seats in the Kowloon East PDCA. The dissatisfaction was compounded because the population of Kowloon has increased since 1995. In fact, there has been population growth in each of Hong Kong Island, Kowloon and the New Territories, as borne out clearly by the following population figures:

	<u>1995</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>Increase</u>
Hong Kong Island	1,286,234	1,360,700	74,466
Kowloon	1,910,549	2,072,200	161,651
New Territories	2,796,217	3,093,800	297,583
Total:	5,993,000	6,526,700	533,700

6.29 Based on the above population figures, it can be seen that the population quotas used as the basis for the allocation of 20 LegCo seats in GCs are 299,650 for 1995 and 326,335 for 1998. When the populations in the 3 areas are divided by the applicable population quota, the following figures appear which are faithfully reflected by the seats allocated:

	<u>1995 Quotient &amp; Seats</u>	<u>1998 Quotient &amp; Seats</u>
Hong Kong Island	4.29 4 seats	4.17 4 seats
Kowloon	6.38 7 seats	6.35 6 seats
New Territories	9.33 9 seats	9.48 10 seats

6.30 It is therefore clear why Kowloon was given 7 seats in the 1995 exercise whereas it is now allocated 6 seats instead. Moreover, apart from the larger increase in population in the New Territories this time, the much larger geographical coverage of the New Territories can be viewed as a further consideration to justify it being represented on the LegCo by more members.

6.31 The Commission finds it strange that though the Kowloon Federation of Associations and the others who shared its views placed importance on the maintenance of community identities and local ties regarding Yuen Long, little regard was paid to the same consideration relating to the Sai Kung District. It was argued that Tseung Kwan O of the Sai Kung District should be split from the District to form part of Kowloon East, so as to achieve a better population distribution, reliance being placed on Tseung Kwan O's transportation link with Kowloon and its being included in the Kowloon administrative network. The Commission is of the view that administrative network is not covered by the statutory criteria. As far as transportation link between various Districts is concerned, residents of Tseung Kwan O going to Kowloon by using routes connecting the two places are no different from residents of Hong Kong Island going on the ferry or through the tunnels to get to Kowloon.

6.32 If Tseung Kwan O is allowed to be severed from the Sai Kung District to form part of Kowloon East, then both the boundary of that District



and that of the UC/RC Areas would not remain intact. Disregarding the UC/RC boundary would entail a great number of other possible permutations in the delineation of GCs. For example, when the UC/RC boundary is ignored, is there any argument against one or more of the Districts on Hong Kong Island to be joined with those in Kowloon in forming a GC, or against the Shum Shui Po District in Kowloon joining the Sha Tin and Tai Po Districts in the New Territories, so long as each GC has a population within the 15% range of allowable deviation from the population criterion? The permutations would be so various and numerous that the Commission's provisional and final recommendations would be bound to find dissatisfaction with all the people of the Hong Kong SAR save those very few who might happen to coincidentally find the recommendations in line with or advancing their interest. This would be an extremely undesirable, if not dangerous, avenue to pursue, for with the large number of possible permutations, whichever permutation was chosen by the Commission, the majority of the people of Hong Kong would find the Commission's recommendations unacceptable, insofar as they preferred any other of the permutations.

6.33 Further, no one from Sai Kung has made representations to the Commission in support of the request to alter the Kowloon East PDCA. The Commission was disappointed that the Sha Tin Provisional District Board and the North Provisional District Board (both of the Districts are in the eastern part of the New Territories), who had made appointments to meet with the Commission on 21 October 1997, cancelled their appointments. Otherwise, the Commission would have sought their views on the proposal of splitting Sai Kung or including the whole of the Sai Kung District in the Kowloon East constituency for giving one more seat to Kowloon.

6.34 At the meeting with the Heung Yee Kuk representatives on 20 October 1997, the Commission sought the views of the Kuk relating to the merging of the Sai Kung District with Kowloon East to form a GC. Consequently, the Kuk put in a written representation which opposed to the idea. This echoed the view of Mr LAM Wing-yin, a Sai Kung Provisional District Board member, who made known at the City Forum meeting that he had no objection to EAC's proposal of including Tseung Kwan O in the NTE PDCA. The Chairman of the Sai Kung Provisional District Board also wrote in to object to Tseung Kwan O being included in the Kowloon East constituency.

6.35 The reasons given in paragraphs 6.31 and 6.32 for rejecting alteration of the Kowloon East PDCA apply similarly to the situation of the Kowloon West PDCA. There were no representations from Kwai Tsing or Islands in support of the request that they be included in Kowloon West, while Heung Yee Kuk was against the Kwai Tsing District joining the Kowloon West PDCA.

6.36 In all the circumstances, the Commission is not at all persuaded that there should be any alteration to the Kowloon PDCAs or that Kowloon should anyhow be allotted 7 seats.

#### Section 9 : Decisions on The New Territories West and New Territories East LCCAs

6.37 A number of reasoning in support of not splitting Yuen Long is unsound or unpersuasive: for example, the administrative set up in the District is not one of the matters for consideration in the statutory criteria, although the

matter could be said to be covered by regard having to be had on the District boundaries. Yuen Long being separated from the North and Tai Po Districts by a mountain range is not a strong factor for not including part of Yuen Long in the formation of the NTE constituency, for the existing road system over the mountain has resolved the transportation problem that could have existed. The custom of inhabitants in the affected DBCAs using the transportation system linked with the rest of Yuen Long instead of that in the other Districts in the north-east is again not a forceful reason for altering the provisional recommendations. All these said, during the visit on 23 October 1997, Members of the Commission did feel that the transportation links between the west and east parts of the areas concerned might create some problems as there were only four main routes linking the parts, all over mountains or steep terrain.

6.38 On the other hand, however, Members of the EAC appreciate the great significance that indigenous people place on community identities and local ties. The common ancestry of the inhabitants of part of the affected area with some other parts of Yuen Long reinforces the point. During the visit, Members were impressed by the large number of representatives and villagers of the heungs in Yuen Long who came to meet the Commission, to show their concern, if not solidarity. The community links between those in the affected area and the rest of Yuen Long support the arguments on the candidate/elector relationship. The fear that LegCo members returned from the NTE constituency may attach less importance on serving the relatively small population of the affected area in Yuen Long seems well founded. This is also connected with the concern over the development of the west part of the New Territories when all Districts in this geographical coverage should be similarly involved. Lack of or reduction in interest in such development would not be

for anyone's benefit.

6.39 Although the Commission is still of the view that community identities and local ties play a less significant role in this highest tier of representative government and especially where a LegCo constituency covers a large area comprising many variant communities, Members feel that on a fine balance, the reasons in support of an alteration of the provisional recommendations are weighty enough to tip the scale. The main reason is that even if acceding to the request in the representations, the deviation from the population criterion in respect of NTE, being minus 13.52%, is still within the allowable limit of 15% prescribed by section 20(1)(b) of the LegCo Ordinance. The result is that Yuen Long District as an integral whole is recommended to form part of the NTW constituency.

6.40 The Commission considers that by making the alteration, it has struck a proper and fair balance between community sensitivity and the population criterion. The population criterion has been substantially complied with and sufficient regard has been paid to the section 20(3) considerations.

6.41 Consequently, the boundaries of the UC Area and RC Area are maintained and the boundaries of all the 18 Districts in the whole of the territory are to remain intact.

6.42 Each of the 5 LCCAs delineated has a population within the 15% range of the resulting number. The Commission sees no case where it is desirable, let alone necessary, to depart from the range. The highest deviation from the resulting number is minus 13.52%, in the NTE LCCA.

## Section 10 : Names of Legislative Council Constituencies

6.43 As envisaged, no representations were received regarding the names proposed by the Commission. Nor indeed, did the Commission receive any representations on the reference code numbers of the PDCAs.

## Section 11 : The Recommendations

6.44 After the Commission has carefully considered all the public representations, it makes its final recommendations in respect of 5 LCCAs. The LCCAs with the number of seats allocated to each, their names and reference code numbers, the component Districts and DBCAs and their names with population details as well as the maps showing the boundaries of the recommended LCCAs are contained in **Volume 2** of this report.