

## **CHAPTER 3**

### **THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

#### **Section 1 : The Consultation Period and Public Forum**

3.1 In compliance with the requirement of section 19 of the EACO, the EAC conducted a public consultation exercise on its provisional recommendations from 21 May to 19 June 2015 for a period of 30 days. During this period, members of the public could send in their representations, in writing, to the EAC to express their views on the EAC's provisional recommendations on the boundaries and names of the GCs.

3.2 During the public consultation period, summary of the provisional recommendations on GCs, together with the method for the allocation of seats, component Districts and DCCAs, and maps showing the boundaries of the GCs were available for public inspection at all District Offices, management offices of all public housing estates, all Post Offices, major and district public libraries and the REO. Such information was also made available to the public on the EAC's website.

3.3 Each set of the consultative document contained the Message from the EAC Chairman, which explained to the public the statutory requirements, relevant criteria and the working principles adopted by the EAC in delineating the GC boundaries, and also the justifications for the

provisional recommendations.

3.4 The public consultation was widely publicised through Announcements in the Public Interest on radio and TV, press releases, newspaper advertisements, posters, the EAC's website and the government gazette.

3.5 On the first day of the consultation period, i.e. 21 May 2015, the EAC held a press conference to launch the public consultation exercise and invited the public to give their views on the EAC's provisional recommendations. To ensure that the final recommendations of the EAC could fully take into account public opinions, the EAC appealed to the public to come forward and express their support or otherwise for the provisional recommendations. This was to enable the EAC to more accurately gauge the public's views and degree of acceptance of the provisional recommendations.

3.6 A public forum was held from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on 11 June 2015 at the Lai Chi Kok Community Hall, 863 Lai Chi Kok Road, Sham Shui Po, Kowloon, where members of the public could attend and express their views to the EAC directly. Audio-visual aids were used to facilitate understanding of the representations by making reference to maps and other relevant information.

3.7 The REO also attended a meeting of the LegCo Panel on

Constitutional Affairs on 15 June 2015 to brief LegCo Members and listen to their views on the EAC's provisional recommendations.

## **Section 2 : Number of Representations Received**

3.8            During the consultation period, the EAC received a total of 18 written representations. In addition, nine persons turned up at the public forum held on 11 June 2015. All written representations are reproduced in Part II of this volume. Summaries of the written and oral representations are shown in **Appendix III** of this volume.