

## **CHAPTER 3**

### **PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

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

3.1 Pursuant to the provision of section 19 of the EACO, the EAC conducted a public consultation exercise on its provisional recommendations from 8 May 2019 to 6 June 2019 (a period of 30 days). During this period, members of the public could send in their written representations to the EAC to express their views on the EAC's provisional recommendations on the boundaries and names of the GCs.

3.2 Throughout the public consultation period, descriptions of the proposed GC boundaries, together with the method for the allocation of seats, component administrative districts and DCCAs, and maps showing the proposed boundaries of the GCs were available for public inspection at the Home Affairs Enquiry Centres of all District Offices, the REO, Philatelic Offices of Hongkong Post, management offices of all public housing estates, and all major and district public libraries. The information was also uploaded onto the EAC's website for public viewing.

3.3 The consultation document has contained the Message from the EAC Chairman, explaining to the public the statutory provisions and criteria as well as working principles adopted by the EAC in delineating the GC

boundaries, and also the justifications for the provisional recommendations.

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

3.5 On the first day of the consultation period (i.e. 8 May 2019), the EAC held a press conference to launch the exercise, and invited the public to give their views on the EAC's provisional recommendations. To ensure that its final recommendations can fully take into account the public opinions, the EAC appealed to the public to actively participate in the consultation and express their views for or against the provisional recommendations.

3.6 A public forum was conducted from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on 16 May 2019 at the Lai Chi Kok Community Hall, 863 Lai Chi Kok Road, Sham Shui Po, Kowloon, where members of the public could express their oral representations to the EAC directly. Audio-visual aids showing the maps and other relevant information were used to facilitate the participants to better understand the content of the provisional recommendations.

3.7 The REO attended a meeting of the LegCo Panel on Constitutional Affairs on 20 May 2019 to brief LegCo Members on the delineation exercise 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 has received a total of 12 written representations. Besides, nine persons attended the public forum held on 16 May 2019. Four oral representations were received at the forum.

3.9 Among the representations received by the EAC, some of the views were not related to the boundaries or names of the GCs but concerned other matters such as boundaries of the administrative districts, the number of GCs and the upper or lower limit of seats permitted for each GC. The EAC has referred the relevant representations to the Government for reference.

3.10 All the written representations are recorded in Part II of this volume. A summary of all written and oral representations is also provided in **Appendix III** of this volume.