

**For information
on 19 January 2004**

Legislative Council Panel on Security

**Consideration for Tseung Kwan O
To Become a Police District**

Purpose

This paper briefs Members on the crime statistics and police-to-public ratio in Tseung Kwan O for the purpose of considering whether a Police District should be established for the area.

Background

2. Geographically and for police operational command purpose, Tseung Kwan O Division belongs to the Police Kowloon East Region. The Region comprises the following seven Police Divisions -

- (a) Tseung Kwan O
- (b) Kwun Tong
- (c) Sau Mau Ping
- (d) Ngau Tau Kok
- (e) Wong Tai Sin
- (f) Tsz Wan Shan
- (g) Sai Kung

Crime Rate

3. For comparison purposes, the crime rates of the seven Police Divisions in the past three years are shown below :

Crime Rate <u>(number of crimes per 100 000 population)</u>			
<u>Police Division</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
(a) Tseung Kwan O	621	627	776
(b) Kwun Tong	837	941	1 062
(c) Sau Mau Ping	740	783	978
(d) Ngau Tau Kok	1 061	1 276	1 825
(e) Wong Tai Sin	742	761	928
(f) Tsz Wan Shan	485	510	715
(g) Sai Kung	1 348	1 422	1 837

4. In comparison with other Divisions, the crime statistics of Tseung Kwan O Division do not provide the necessary justification for turning the Division into a Police District.

Police-to-Public Ratio

5. For comparison purposes, the police-to-public ratios of the seven Police Divisions are shown below :

	<u>Police Division</u>	<u>Police-to-public Ratio</u>
(a)	Tseung Kwan O	1 : 1 550
(b)	Kwun Tong	1 : 948
(c)	Sau Mau Ping	1 : 1 006
(d)	Ngau Tau Kok	1 : 438
(e)	Wong Tai Sin	1 : 938
(f)	Tsz Wan Shan	1 : 816
(g)	Sai Kung	1 : 435

6. When compared with other Divisions in Police Kowloon East Region, the police-to-public ratio of Tseung Kwan O appears to be on the low side. However, as shown by the figures in paragraph 3, Tseung Kwan O also has a relatively low crime rate.

7. That said, the Police monitor closely the crime and policing situations in Tseung Kwan O. In view of the expansion in local population and facilities, the Police have on three occasions between 2000 and 2003 increased the Tseung Kwan O police establishment by 72, 11 and 23 disciplined staff posts respectively.

Other Reinforcement for Optimum Policing

8. The Police Force maintains its operational responsiveness by deploying, in addition to the local Tseung Kwan O resources, other police manpower such as the Emergency Unit, the Police Tactical Unit, Traffic and Crime personnel to the Tseung Kwan O Division in the event of specific policing problems and operational needs within the area.

Way Forward

9. Apart from crime rate and police-to-public ratio, the manpower of a Police Division also depends on the overall workload of the Division, population growth, infrastructure developments and other unique factors in the Division. According to the figures shown above, there does not seem to be sufficient justification for establishing a Police District in Tseung Kwan O. Hong Kong Police Force has been giving thoughts to the alternative of combining Tseung Kwan O Division and another Police Division (e.g. Sai Kung) to form a new Police District. As the statistics have indicated, this concept has yet to establish the urgency for its implementation at this stage. Nevertheless, the Police will continue to monitor closely the crime patterns and related policing needs of Tseung Kwan O Division and keep an open mind as to the most appropriate policing model best suited to Tseung Kwan O's evolving development.

Hong Kong Police Force

January 2004