

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

LC Paper No. LS24/06-07

**Paper for the House Committee Meeting  
on 5 January 2007**

**Legal Service Division Report on  
Subsidiary Legislation Gazetted on 22 December 2006**

**Date of tabling in LegCo** : 10 January 2007

**Amendment to be made by** : 7 February 2007 (or 28 February 2007 if extended by resolution)

**District Councils Ordinance (Cap. 547)**

**Declaration of Constituencies (District Councils) Order 2006 (L.N.275)**

The Order declares the respective constituencies of the 18 Districts by delineating their areas and giving names to the constituencies. The Order will come into operation on 1 March 2007 for the purpose only of enabling arrangements to be made for the holding of the District Council ordinary election in 2007 and on 1 January 2008 (i.e. the beginning of the third term of office of District Councils) for all other purposes. The existing Declaration of Constituencies (District Councils) Order 2003 will be repealed consequentially. The Order has been made by the Chief Executive in Council after accepting in their entirety the recommendations in the report submitted by the Electoral Affairs Commission (EAC) to the Chief Executive on the delineation and names of the constituencies for the District Council Election in 2007.

2. Members may refer to LegCo Brief CAB C2/11 issued by the Constitutional Affairs Bureau in December 2006 for the working principles adopted by the EAC in arriving at its provisional recommendations and, following public consultation on its provisional recommendations, the approach it adopted in drawing up its final recommendations. According to paragraphs 16 and 17 of the LegCo Brief, EAC adjusted its provisional recommendations in respect of the boundaries of 47 constituencies and the names of nine. In the end, the boundaries of 139 constituencies were changed and EAC allowed 17 constituencies to deviate from the population quota by more than 25%, mainly due to the need to preserve identity and local ties.

3. In total, 405 constituencies are declared, five more than the existing number due to the increase from eight to 10 elected seats in the Islands District Council and from 20 to 23 elected seats in the Sai Kung District Council for the third term.
4. The Constitutional Affairs Panel has not discussed the Order. However, the public consultation documents published by EAC containing provisional constituency areas boundary descriptions and proposed electoral boundary maps for the 2007 District Council Election were issued to all Members on 28 July 2006.
5. The legal and drafting aspects of the Order present no problem.

Prepared by

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