

立法會
Legislative Council

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Tel : 3919 3302

Date : 27 June 2013

From : Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 17 July 2013

**Proposed resolution under
the District Councils Ordinance**

The Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs will move at the Council meeting of 17 July 2013 a proposed resolution under section 8 of the District Councils Ordinance (Cap. 547). The proposed resolution is attached for Members' consideration. The President has directed that it be printed in the terms in which it was handed in on the Agenda of the Council.

2. The speech, in both Chinese and English, which the Secretary will deliver when moving the proposed resolution is also attached.

(Ms Dora WAI)
for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

District Councils Ordinance

Resolution

(Under section 8 of the District Councils Ordinance (Cap. 547))

Resolved that the District Councils Ordinance (Amendment of Schedule 3) Order 2013, made by the Chief Executive in Council on 25 June 2013, be approved.

District Councils Ordinance (Amendment of Schedule 3) Order 2013

(Made by the Chief Executive in Council under section 8 of the District Councils Ordinance (Cap. 547) subject to the approval of the Legislative Council)

1. Commencement

This Order—

- (a) for all purposes relating to the District Council ordinary election in 2015--comes into operation on the day on which the Resolution of the Legislative Council approving this Order is published in the Gazette; and
- (b) in so far as it has not come into operation under paragraph (a)—comes into operation on 1 January 2016.

2. District Councils Ordinance amended

The District Councils Ordinance (Cap. 547) is amended as set out in section 3.

3. Schedule 3 amended

- (1) Schedule 3, Part 1, item 3—

Repeal

“22”

Substitute

“24”.

- (2) Schedule 3, Part 1, item 4—

Repeal

“35”

Substitute

“37”.

- (3) Schedule 3, Part 1, item 5—

Repeal

“21”

Substitute

“23”.

- (4) Schedule 3, Part 1, item 9—

Repeal

“17”

Substitute

“19”.

- (5) Schedule 3, Part 1, item 12—

Repeal

“17”

Substitute

“18”.

- (6) Schedule 3, Part 1, item 13—

Repeal

“24”

Substitute

“27”.

- (7) Schedule 3, Part 1, item 14—

Repeal

“36”

Substitute

“38”.

- (8) Schedule 3, Part 1, item 16—

Repeal

“17”

Substitute

“18”.

- (9) Schedule 3, Part 1, item 18—

Repeal

“31”

Substitute

“35”.

Clerk to the Executive Council

COUNCIL CHAMBER

25th June, 2013

Explanatory Note

The purpose of this Order is to amend Schedule 3 to the District Councils Ordinance (Cap. 547) to change the number of elected members of—

- (a) Kowloon City District Council from 22 to 24;
- (b) Kwun Tong District Council from 35 to 37;
- (c) Sham Shui Po District Council from 21 to 23;
- (d) Yau Tsim Mong District Council from 17 to 19;
- (e) North District Council from 17 to 18;
- (f) Sai Kung District Council from 24 to 27;
- (g) Sha Tin District Council from 36 to 38;
- (h) Tsuen Wan District Council from 17 to 18; and
- (i) Yuen Long District Council from 31 to 35.

- 2. The change in the number of elected members will come into effect on 1 January 2016, but will also take effect for the District Council ordinary election to be held in 2015.

(TRANSLATION)

Speech by
the Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs
on a motion to pass
the District Councils Ordinance
(Amendment of Schedule 3) Order 2013
at the Legislative Council on 17 July 2013

Mr President,

I move that the District Councils Ordinance (Amendment of Schedule 3) Order 2013 (the Order) be approved. The purpose of this piece of subsidiary legislation is to add a total of 19 elected seats to nine District Councils (DCs) starting from the fifth-term DCs on 1 January 2016.

2. The proposed increase is based on the forecast of the population in Hong Kong by mid-2015 (i.e., 7 311 300), the continued application of a population quota of about 17 000

residents to one DC elected seat, the abolition of DC appointed seats from the fifth-term DCs onwards, and the increasingly important role DCs will play in district administration in proposing the increase in the number of elected seats.

3. Our specific recommendation is to increase the number of elected seats by one for Tsuen Wan and North DCs respectively; by two for Sham Shui Po, Kowloon City, Kwun Tong, Yau Tsim Mong and Sha Tin DCs respectively; by three for Sai Kung DC; and by four for Yuen Long DC.

4. The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau consulted the Legislative Council Panel on Constitutional Affairs and the Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of the 18 DCs on the proposal in May this year, and obtained their general support. The Chief Executive in Council made the Order at the Executive Council meeting on 25 June 2013. The

House Committee of the Legislative Council examined the Order at its meeting on 5 July and decided that there was no need to form a subcommittee on subsidiary legislation to scrutinise the Order.

5. Subject to the approval of the Order by the Legislative Council today, the Electoral Affairs Commission will proceed with the demarcation of constituency boundaries for the 2015 DC election having regard to the existing boundaries of Districts, the revised number of seats and the relevant statutory criteria. The Registration and Electoral Office will also make preparation for the conduct of the 2015 DC ordinary election in accordance with the revised number of DC elected seats.

6. Mr President, I would also like to take the opportunity to inform the Legislative Council that

representatives of Eastern DC and Wan Chai DC have indicated to the Administration their wish to further consider whether their District boundary could be adjusted to address the problem of Wan Chai DC having a small number of seats. The Administration will, in this summer, further gauge the views of Eastern and Wan Chai DCs and the local residents of the relevant DC constituencies. If consensus can emerge among concerned parties, we will consider introducing a new order later to amend the District Councils Ordinance to adjust the boundary between Eastern and Wan Chai Districts and to consequentially adjust the number of elected seats of the two DCs.

7. With the above, I invite Members to approve the Order to implement the increase in the number of elected seats for the fifth-term DCs.

8. Thank you, Mr President.