

For Information  
on 4 January 2013

## **Legislative Council Panel on Security**

### **Upgrading of the Tseung Kwan O Police Division to a Police District**

#### **Introduction**

This paper briefs Members on the plan of the Hong Kong Police Force to upgrade the Tseung Kwan O Police Division (“TKO Division”) to a Police District.

#### **Current Situation of TKO**

2. The law and order in TKO is maintained by the TKO Division under the Kwun Tong (“KT”) Police District of the Kowloon East (“KE”) Region. The TKO Division was established in 1992 when the population in the district was around 100 000. In the past two decades, TKO has seen a considerable increase in population along with significant infrastructure improvements, especially upon the commissioning of the MTR Tseung Kwan O Extension in August 2002. Currently, the population in TKO is around 410 000. It is anticipated that the population will reach 470 000 in 2019.

3. Since 2002, the establishment of the TKO Division has increased from 196 to 275, including an addition of 20 frontline officers to its Task Force in August 2012, to enhance the management of law and order in TKO.

4. In addition to the local resources allocated to the TKO Division, the establishment of the KE Region has a total of over 3 800 officers. Where necessary, the Police will meet the operational needs of the Division through internal resource deployment. Therefore, the enforcement capability of the Police in TKO will not be constrained by the administrative boundaries of the police districts.

#### **Law and Order in TKO**

5. Currently, the law and order in TKO remains stable. The crime rate of the TKO Division is lower than other divisions in the KE Region. For the first 10 months in 2012, a total of 2 477 cases were recorded,

representing a slight drop of 5 cases compared with 2 482 over the same period in 2011, with miscellaneous thefts making up the bulk (631 cases), followed by shop thefts (368 cases). The crime figures in TKO are at **Annex**.

6. Police officers of the TKO Division frequently maintain close contact with local residents to exchange views and to understand the latest crime situations in the district. It is understood that local residents and groups are very concerned about the problem of youth crimes in the district. To tackle such a problem, the Police tentatively set up an anti-youth crime team under the Anti-triad Section of the KT Police District through internal resource deployment in 2008 for intelligence gathering and enforcement actions. The Police will make continuous effort in anti-crime operations against youth crimes in TKO.

### **Upgrading of the TKO Division to a Police District**

7. The Police have been monitoring closely the crime situation and policing needs of TKO, and deploy sufficient police resources to maintain the law and order with reference to its community development and population. Nevertheless, the Police are aware of the concerns of local residents and groups over the law and order in TKO, as well as their demands of upgrading the TKO Division to a police district.

8. Having regard to the views of the local residents and organisations, population growth and community development of TKO, the Police are studying earnestly the re-planning and redistribution of police resources in the KE Region and the ancillary facilities required. As indicated by the Commissioner of the Police at the meeting of the Sai Kung Fight Crime Committee held in November 2011, the Police were contemplating the re-planning and redistribution of police resources in the KE Region in 2015, including the upgrading of the TKO Division to a police district, to better meet the policing needs of TKO.

### ***Work Progress and Action Plan***

9. For more efficient utilisation of regional policing resources, the Police are contemplating the re-demarcation of current boundaries of police districts in the KE Region upon the completion of the above upgrading exercise. The Sai Kung Police Division would be considered to be incorporated into the future TKO Police District. Kwun Tong, Wong Tai Sin, Sau Mau Ping, Railway and the upgraded TKO Police Districts will then constitute the KE Region.

10. To tie in with the upgrading exercise, it is indicated in the Note for Establishment Subcommittee (ECI(2012-13)8) issued last year that the Administration has proposed the creation of one permanent post of Chief Superintendent of Police (PPS 55 or D1-equivalent) to serve as the District Commander of TKO District<sup>1</sup>. We plan to consult the Panel on Security on the creation of the post in mid-2013.

11. In addition to the police officers from the TKO Division, their counterparts from the Crime KE Regional Headquarters and Traffic Kowloon East are also stationed in the TKO Divisional Police Station. To facilitate the upgrading exercise, all officers, except those from the TKO Police District, shall move out of the police station in future, with a view to making space for accommodating additional officers arising from the newly created posts upon completion of the upgrading exercise.

12. As part of another initiative, the Police are contemplating the development of a new KE Regional Headquarters (“HQs”) at the site of the existing Kai Tak Operational Base, taking into account the major infrastructure developments in KE area (including Kai Tak Development, housing development project at Anderson Road and Kwun Tong Town Centre Redevelopment). The centralisation of all operational units of the KE Region at the new HQs helps to further enhance the regional policing efficiency. Officers of the KE Region currently stationed at the TKO Divisional Police Station shall move in the new HQs upon completion. To meet the schedule of the upgrading exercise, they shall move out of the police station by phases before 2015. Upon consultation with the relevant District Councils, the Police will brief the Legislative Council Panel on Security on the development plan of the KE Region in due course.

**Security Bureau  
Hong Kong Police Force  
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<sup>1</sup> According to the Force Manual of Manning Scales, the District Commander is in general established at the level of Chief Superintendent. Duties of the District Commander include ensuring a high standard of duty performance and discipline from personnel under his command; ensuring efficient deployment of District resources to meet requirements; cultivating and sustaining sound police-community relations in the District in accordance with the Force directives; controlling traffic on secondary and minor roads through the enforcement of traffic laws under the current orders; and maintaining close liaison with the District Office and the District Council and other Government representatives in the district.

### A Breakdown of Crimes in the TKO Division

Crimes	January to October 2012
Miscellaneous Thefts	631
Shop Thefts	368
Criminal Damages	291
Deceptions	271
Wounding and Serious Assaults	254
Serious Narcotics Offences	31
Unlawful Society Offences	19
Robberies	14
Indecent Assaults	41
Others (including Criminal Intimidation, Blackmail, Unlawful Sexual Intercourse and Possession of Offensive Weapons)	557
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 477</b>