

民政事務總署
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23 November 2017

Ms Clara Tam
Legal Service Division
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms Tam,

**Amendments to Three Regulations under
the Electoral Affairs Commission Ordinance (Cap. 541)
(L.N. 172 to L.N. 174 of 2017)**

I refer to the meeting dated 20 November 2017 on the captioned and would like to provide our response to your question regarding the term “correspondence address (通訊地址)” instead of “postal address (通信地址)” being used in the proposed section 5(1)(b)(ii) of Cap. 541K.

Under section 1(1) of Cap.541K, postal address “*does not include a post office box number unless it is coupled with a residential address*”. The term is used in sections 12(4) and 34 of Cap. 541K.

Specifically, section 34(2) of Cap. 541K provides that a communication that the Electoral Registration Officer (“*ERO*”) is required to send by post to a

person, in compiling an Indigenous Villages and Composite Indigenous Villages register, must be sent by post to the person's principal residential address or postal address. However, section 34(4) empowers the ERO to send the communication "*by any other means that the person has made available to the ERO*", if the ERO considers it appropriate to do so.

For the purpose of our proposed amendments to section 5(1)(b)(ii) of Cap. 541K, our policy intent is that the entry relating to a person in an Indigenous Villages and Composite Indigenous Villages register may show the correspondence address (but not restricted to the postal address) that the person has made available to the ERO. Hence, it would be appropriate to use "correspondence address", but not "postal address", in the proposed section 5(1)(b)(ii).

Yours sincerely,



(Ms Rachel YIU)

for Director of Home Affairs

c.c. Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

(Attention: Mr Ryan CHIU)

Chief Electoral Officer, Registration and Electoral Office

(Attention: Mr WONG See-man)