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3 locals made department heads

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Three local civil servants have been promoted to replace expatriates as department heads.

The Rating and Evaluation Department, the Treasury and the Government Laboratory will be localised when their heads retire in the next few weeks.

Kenneth Pang Tsan-wing, Hong Kong Commissioner for Economic and Trade Affairs at the Washington Office, will succeed Barry Woodroffe as Commissioner of Rating and Valuation.

Shum Man-to, Deputy Director of Accounting Services, will take over from Brian Dagnall as Director of Accounting Services of the Treasury.

Assistant Government Chemist Chan Chi-kin will be promoted to Government Chemist when Dr Bryce Dailly retires on March 1.

Figures provided by the Civil Service Bureau showed that about 85 per cent of directorate-grade officials were local.

Secretary for Civil Service Lam Woon-kwong yesterday expressed confidence in the new leaders.

"These officers have proven administrative abilities and sound professional skills. I am confident that they will lead the departments competently," he said.

Back To Top

11.9

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[Front Page](#) | [Hong Kong](#) | [China](#) | [Asia](#) | [World](#) | [Business](#)
[Markets](#) | [Focus](#) | [Sport](#) | [Property](#) | [Technology](#) | [Index](#)

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