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18 district constituency boundaries under review

THE CITY and New Territories Administration has started reviewing its 18 districts' constituency boundaries.

The Southern District is the first one to consult the district board members on suggested changes to its constituency boundaries at a board meeting yesterday.

The exercise is in anticipation of voters registration to be launched in August next year.

It will be conducted in the light of past experience and the physical and socio-political developments in the districts.

At present, because there is no uniformity in district boundaries among some government departments, much inconvenience and confusion arise in implementing policies or providing information.

The review will be completed to allow sufficient time for the preparation of new electoral boundary maps for submission to Executive Council.

The District Offices will forward results of the review to the CNTA at the end of this month after consulting the district management committee and district board.

The CNTA and Registration and Elector-

al Division will finalise the new boundaries at the end of October.

From November this year to February next year, the government Land Surveyor will finish work on new boundaries maps.

Southern District Officer, Mr Kwong Ki-chi, said the reports will be submitted to the Exco next year.

Mr Kwong said the restructuring will be taken to avoid involving residential and commercial development as much as possible.

And consultation with other districts will be necessary if there is conflict in restructuring the boundaries.

The district offices will consult other government departments particularly the Urban Area Development Organisation in suggesting the boundary changes, he said.

At the board meeting yesterday, it was learned that the Urban Council has approved letting a cooked food centre project at Namlongshan-road in Southern district, to a private architect consultant.

The board was told that construction of the centre will start in a year if everything goes smoothly and fund is available.