

9 January 2024

Written Reply to Parliamentary Question on Whether The Electoral Boundaries Review Committee (EBRC) Has Allowed The Size of Each Constituency to Deviate by up to 30%

Question:

Ms Hazel Poa: To ask the Prime Minister (a) whether the Electoral Boundaries Review Committee (EBRC) has allowed the size of each constituency to deviate by up to 30%, instead of 20% previously, from the mean size of constituencies since 1980 and, if so, why; (b) whether the terms of reference to the EBRC should include an instruction to 'ensure more equal representation'; and (c) if not, will such an instruction be re-inserted into the terms of reference for subsequent EBRCs.

Written Reply by Mr Chan Chun Sing, Minister of Education, for the Prime Minister:

1 Since 1980, the Electoral Boundaries Review Committee (EBRC) has adopted a planning norm of $\pm 30\%$ variation in the average number of electors per Member of Parliament (MP) in its review of electoral boundaries.

2 This approach balances the considerations for fair representation, with the need for more adjustments to the electoral boundaries arising from population shifts.