

[New Ombudsman appointed \(with photo\)](#)

The Government announced today (February 22) the appointment of Ms Winnie Chiu Wai-yin as the new Ombudsman for a term of five years commencing April 1, 2019. The appointment is made by the Chief Executive in accordance with The Ombudsman Ordinance (Cap 397).

Ms Chiu has served in the Hong Kong Police Force for over 35 years, during which she has accumulated rich experience in investigation, operations, policy planning and human resources management. She also possesses outstanding skills in leadership and communication. As the first female Deputy Commissioner of Police, Ms Chiu commands respect and is well recognised both in the Government and in the community. Her remarkable career in the Police bears testimony to her professionalism and competence.

Commenting on the appointment, the Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, said, "I am confident that Ms Chiu would fully demonstrate her independence and impartiality as the Ombudsman. Her extensive experience and clear vision would enable the Office of The Ombudsman to further its important mission of improving public administration in Hong Kong."

The term of office of the incumbent Ombudsman, Ms Connie Lau, will expire on March 31, 2019. In paying tribute to the outgoing Ombudsman, Mrs Lam said, "Under Ms Lau's capable and outstanding leadership, the Office of The Ombudsman has proactively investigated systemic issues and offered constructive recommendations, thereby motivating government departments and public bodies to enhance the efficiency and quality of public services. Her sense of justice and fairness is well respected, and the sterling performance of her office has won recognition both in the local community and internationally."

Mrs Lam wished Ms Lau all the best in her future endeavours.

An open recruitment exercise was conducted earlier to select the new Ombudsman, and a Selection Board was appointed to assess the candidates and make recommendation to the Chief Executive. The Selection Board was chaired by Mr Chow Chung-kong, with Mrs Fanny Law, Mr Simon Ip and the Director of Administration as members.

