# Meeting of the Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) with the Complaints & Internal Investigations Branch (C&IIB) (Open Part) held at the IPCC Secretariat Office at 1530 hours on Tuesday, 20 June 2023

**Present:** 

**IPCC** Ms Priscilla WONG Pui-sze, SBS, JP (Chairman)

Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, SBS, JP (Vice-chairman) Hon Ronick CHAN Chun-ying, JP (Vice-chairman) Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, BBS, JP (Vice-chairman)

Mr Clement CHAN Kam-wing, MH, JP

Mr Wilson KWONG Wing-tsuen
Dr Daniel CHAN Ching-yan, MH
Mr Roland WONG Ka-yeung
Mr LEE Man-bun, MH, JP

Mrs Helen YU LAI Ching-ping, SBS

Miss Mabel CHAN Mei-bo

Mr Randy YU Hon-kwan, MH, JP

Ms Cindi HUI Ming-ming

Mr Ivan SZE Wing-hang, BBS, JP

Police Ms Rebecca LAM Hiu-tong, DMS

Ms Anna TSANG Yim-sheung, ACP SQ

Ms Monica AU YEUNG Mun-yee, CSP C&IIB

Mr Joe CHAN Hin-kwan, SSP CAPO

Mr Glory CHAN Kwok-fai, SSP AUX SUP Ms Vicky CHAN Sze-ting, SP HQ CAPO Mr Derek TAM Wing-leung, SP CAPO K Ms Annie LO Oi-kin, SP CAPO HKI (T)

Mr Howard KWOK Chi-hou, CIP TRG AUX SUP

<u>Secretariat</u> Mr Daniel MUI Tat-ming, SG

Ms Regina LAU Ngai-kit, DSG (OPS) Ms Patricia WOO Wan-shan, DSG (MGT)

**Absent with apologies:** 

**IPCC** Mr CHAN Chak-ming

Dr Anissa CHAN WONG Lai-kuen, SBS, MH, JP

Ms Jane Curzon LO, BBS, JP

Prof LIN Feng

Dr Desmond NGUYEN Gia-hung

#### **Opening Address**

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

## I. <u>Confirmation of Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 March 2023 (Open Part)</u>

2. The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed without amendment.

#### II. Presentation on 'Hong Kong Auxiliary Police Force'

- 3. <u>SSP AUX SUP</u> gave a presentation on the Hong Kong Auxiliary Police Force (HKAPF), covering its organisational structure, diversified duties, and its operational and recruitment strategy. It was appreciated that members of HKAPF, who came from all walks of lives, were all committed to serving the community and maintaining the law and order of Hong Kong, even under the unprecedented situation during Operation TIDERIDER.
- 4. <u>The Chairman</u> thanked SSP AUX SUP for his informative presentation and invited questions from Members.
- 5. <u>Hon Frankie YICK</u> noted the policy requirement for auxiliary police officers to complete a minimum of 208 working hours per year and enquired how HKAPF could ensure that officers with full-time employment could fulfill such requirement. <u>SSP AUX SUP</u> replied that while employers were not compelled by the laws to facilitate their employees' turnout for auxiliary police duties, most of the employers would carry out their corporate social responsibility by providing flexible work arrangements.
- 6. Mr Clement CHAN asked if the auxiliary officers were required to pair up with regular officers in their daily duties. In response, SSP AUX SUP explained that the auxiliary officers were strategically deployed by individual formation commanders. He made reference to the deployment in Lan Kwai Fong on festive occasions as an example that auxiliary officers were able to perform policing duties independently with their competence and ample experience in crowd control duties.
- 7. <u>Hon Ronick CHAN</u> enquired about the number of substantiated case(s) among all reportable complaints against auxiliary officers in the year of 2022 and the first five months of 2023. Besides, he enquired whether an auxiliary expert cadre for combating commercial crimes would also be considered. <u>SSP AUX SUP</u> assured that HKAPF would continue to explore the feasibility of

establishing expert cadres in possible fields. With regard to complaint figures, <u>SP CAPO HQ</u> stated that the trend of reportable complaints against auxiliary officers was similar to that against regular officers, which was mainly minor in nature. Relevant statistics would be provided to IPCC after the meeting.

[Post-meeting note: Relevant complaint figures on auxiliary officers were provided to IPCC on 2023-06-21.]

- 8. <u>Dr Daniel CHAN</u> noted that some organisations or companies might have restrictions on outside employment. He enquired whether there were any difficulties in auxiliary police mobilisation. <u>DMS</u> responded that participation in auxiliary police duties was entirely voluntary and that many local organisations or companies had been showing their relentless support to HKAPF. She highlighted that the professional knowledge and soft skills acquired through serving in HKAPF might actually assist the auxiliary officers in better performing their full-time job.
- 9. <u>Dr Daniel CHAN</u> further enquired about the situation of auxiliary officers working fulltime in Government bureaux and departments. <u>SSP AUX SUP</u> acknowledged the staunch support of the Government towards HKAPF and reiterated that employers would be able to benefit from the enhanced competencies, such as problem-solving skills, management knowledge, etc. brought to their workforces through facilitating their employees' participation in auxiliary police.
- 10. In response to <u>the Chairman's</u> query about the eligibility of Government employees to join the HKAPF, <u>SSP AUX SUP</u> clarified that members of disciplined services and the Judiciary were ineligible to join the HKAPF due to the nature of their principal employment.
- 11. <u>Miss Mabel CHAN</u> enquired about the recruitment situation of HKAPF and whether there was any direct avenue for auxiliary officers to join the regular service. <u>SSP AUX SUP</u> responded that the number of applications to join the HKAPF had been increasing in the past few years and in particular an upsurge had been recorded after the riots in 2019. There had always been a certain number of auxiliary officers joining the regular services both at the entry ranks of constables and inspectors. He then took the opportunity to introduce the pilot scheme of 'Auxiliary Selected Appointment Programme (ASAP)', which had been introduced since January 2023. It aimed to attract high-calibre auxiliary officers at all ranks to join the regular service as police constables after completing a tailored and expedited selection and training process.

- 12. <u>Hon Jimmy NG</u> enquired that, instead of embarking on a career path as an auxiliary police constable, whether the positions of auxiliary police inspectors would be open for direct application. <u>SSP AUX SUP</u> explained that auxiliary police inspector was only by internal appointment of eligible auxiliary officers with at least three years of service in HKAPF.
- 13. <u>SSP AUX SUP</u> concluded the session by highlighting that sufficient remuneration would be offered to attract individuals of suitable calibre to join the HKAPF.

#### III. Matters for Information

#### (a) CAPO's Monthly Statistics

14. <u>SSP CAPO</u> reported that 717 RCs were received in the first five months of 2023, representing an increase of 290 cases (+68%) when compared with 427 cases in the same period of 2022. The increase could be attributed to the resumption of normalcy in Hong Kong. As a matter of fact, among the 717 RCs, nearly 95% i.e. 679 cases, were of minor nature, including 30% of complaints stemming from traffic enforcement and 15% related to daily patrol duties. The trend was consistent with the enhanced police deployment on the streets. Breakdown of RC figures was detailed at <u>Annex–Table 1</u>.

#### (b) <u>CAPO's Criminal and Disciplinary Checklist</u>

15. <u>SSP CAPO</u> reported that relevant information had been provided to Members for their reference prior to the meeting. No question was raised under this item.

#### IV. Any Other Business

16. There being no other business, the meeting concluded at 1607 hours.

( Vicky CHAN )
Joint Secretary
Complaints and Internal
Investigations Branch

( Patricia WOO ) Joint Secretary Independent Police Complaints Council

#### **Annex**

### Table 1 - Detailed Breakdown and Comparison of RC figures

Year (Jan – May)  RC (Total)		2023 717	2023vs2022 +68%	2023vs2021 +39%
Minor	Neglect of Duty	383 (53%)	+66%	+33%
	Misconduct/Impoliteness	283 (39%)	+75%	+53%
	Offensive Language	13 (2%)	+86%	+44%
	Sub-total	679 (95%)	+70%	+41%
Serious	Assault	27 (4%)	+29%	+13%
	Threat	0 (0%)	No change	-100%
	Unnecessary Use of	11 (1%)	+175%	+57%
	Authority			
	Fabrication of Evidence	0 (0%)	-100%	-100%
Sub-total		38 (5%)	+40%	+9%