

## ***Press release***

### **IPCC releases the final report on complaint cases against the Police arising from the visit by the Vice Premier Mr. Li Keqiang**

*Recommendations are made for police service improvement as a result of an IPCC review on the security measures adopted by the Police in protecting the Vice Premier*

(HONG KONG – 19 December 2012) The Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) today released its final report on complaint cases against the Police arising from the visit by the Vice Premier Mr. Li Keqiang in August last year. Owing to the widespread public discontent and concerns over the magnitude of the security arrangements adopted by the Police, the IPCC has conducted an examination under section 8(1)(c) of the Independent Police Complaints Council Ordinance (IPCCO) on the security measures implemented in the Vice Premier protection operations with a view to identifying inadequacies in police practice and procedures on top of discharging its statutory responsibilities under section 8(1)(a), IPCCO, in monitoring and scrutinising the relevant complaint investigations conducted by the Complaints Against Police Office (CAPO). As a result, IPCC has made a number of recommendations to the Commissioner of Police and / or the Chief Executive for better planning and execution of similar operations in the future.

Mr Jat Sew-Tong, Chairman of the IPCC, said, “The widespread public concerns over the magnitude of this security operation have unfortunately created an overcast on the reputation of the Police. Looking at the positive side, it nevertheless provides the Police a valuable opportunity to reflect upon the lessons learnt. We sincerely hope that our observations and recommendations in the final report can help prevent similar complaints in the future.”

The IPCC released an interim report in May this year on its monitoring and review of the CAPO complaint investigations, in which 9 out of the 16 complaint cases were endorsed. Since then the IPCC has raised further queries with, and examined relevant documents from, the Police via CAPO for the purpose of resolving the outstanding issues. The final report revealed that of the 7 outstanding complaint cases, 5 cases were endorsed and one case remains “Sub-judice”. However, the last case is only partially settled as only 4 of the 6 allegations were endorsed by IPCC. The remaining 2 allegations which focused on the Police’s

decision in setting up the designated press areas are unresolved owing to the different views between CAPO and the IPCC. Such difference is addressed in the final report for Chief Executive's consideration pursuant to S.19(3), IPCCO.

Summing up the report, Mr Jat recommended the Police to seek improvement in the following areas:

1. Better communication co-ordinated by the Operations Wing as the central command unit;
2. Clear guidelines be used in Operational Orders or other form of instructions to the frontline officers so as to ensure that police powers are exercised without any misunderstanding or confusion on the missions and objectives to be achieved;
3. Enhanced communication with members of the public and the press insofar as practicable for the purpose of enlisting their cooperation and understanding; and
4. Review the relevant security measures vigilantly and on regular intervals so as to ensure that a right balance between security requirements and rights of the citizens is always maintained.

The final report on complaint cases arising from the visit by the Vice Premier Mr. Li Keqiang is now available on the IPCC's website at:

[http://www.ipcc.gov.hk/en/public\\_communications/special\\_reports.html](http://www.ipcc.gov.hk/en/public_communications/special_reports.html)

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**Notes to editor:**

#### **About the Independent Police Complaints Council**

The Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) is an independent body established under the Independent Police Complaints Council Ordinance (IPCCO) (Cap. 604) to observe, monitor and review the handling and investigation of reportable complaints (RCs) against the Police by the Commissioner of Police (CP). The IPCC has become a statutory body since the commencement of IPCCO on 1 June 2009.