

**Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance Committee Members
in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2013-14**

**Head : 121 Independent Police Complaints Council
Programme : Police Complaints Administration**

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member
SB257	4060	Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che
SB258	1858	Hon. CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher
SB259	2330	Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary
SB260	3651	Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd
SB261	3078	Hon. KWOK, Dennis
SB262	3780	Hon. LAM Tai-fai
SB263	1198	Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph
SB264	0943	Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan
SB265	0651	Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung
SB266	2524	Hon. POON Siu-ping
SB267	1834	Hon. TIEN Puk-sun, Michael

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: (121) Independent Police Complaints Council
Subhead (No. & title): Not specified

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Secretary-General, Independent Police Complaints Council

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Regarding Subhead 852 Independent Police Complaints Council – minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote), the provision in 2013-14 has increased by 267.5% as compared to the revised estimate of 2012-13. Please inform this Council in detail of the information technology software upgrade and enhancement of IT security systems, their usage and cost.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

The increase in the estimates in Minor plant, Vehicles and Equipment (Block vote) of the Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) is mainly for implementation of information technology (IT) security projects with urgent needs, and for conducting a feasibility study on integration of a large volume of complaint case data.

There are three IT security projects:

1. The government confidential electronic mail system currently used by IPCC was established in 2007. The system was based on IBM Lotus Domino Server and Notes client version 6.5. Since May 2010, IBM has stopped providing technical support or security updates and hotfixes for security loopholes for version 6.5. To minimize the security risk of using obsolete software, IPCC plans to upgrade the Lotus Domino/Notes from version 6.5 to Version 8 as advised by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) to enable the system to have better support and security.
2. There is an urgent need for IPCC to have its own central computer access control system to replace the authentication, identification, accountability and resources authorization system for civil servants, which is no longer applicable. The new central computer access control system will prevent unauthorized access to IT products, programs and devices, etc. This is important for IT security control.
3. In accordance with the IPCC IT security policy, IT security risk assessment and audit should be performed once every two years. The IT security risk assessment and audit exercise provides a complete review of existing IT security risks and the security safeguard thus required.

The last IT security risk assessment and audit for IPCC was completed in 2010-11. In accordance with the prevalent IT security policy, the next IT security risk assessment and audit should be conducted without delay. For this purpose, IPCC has made provisions for engaging professional IT consultants in 2013-14.

In order to enhance IPCC's capacity of handling and analyzing a large volume of case-related information, IPCC plans to conduct a feasibility study for the development of an integrated platform to integrate all complaint case data. The relevant budget has been included in the estimates for Minor plant, Vehicles and Equipment (Block vote).

Name in block letters: Ricky CHU

Post Title: Secretary-General,
Independent Police Complaints
Council

Date: 22.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: (121) Independent Police Complaints Subhead (No. & title):
Council

Programme: (1) Police Complaints Administration

Controlling Officer: Secretary-General, Independent Police Complaints Council

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

How many additional staff is being planned to be recruited by the Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) in order to reduce the time taken to examine investigation reports submitted by the Complaints Against Police Office (CAPO)? What is the concrete target of reduction?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher

Reply:

The IPCC plans to recruit 1 Senior Manager, 1 Manager, 1 Public Relations Officer, 3 administrative support staff and 1 Administrative Assistant in 2013-14.

Since IPCC became a statutory body, it has been striving to increase the efficiency of vetting complaint investigation reports submitted by CAPO. The target average processing time for vetting each report is within 90 days. With continuous improvement of internal procedures and optimal use of resources in the past three years or so, the average processing time for vetting investigation reports of reportable complaints has been substantially reduced, from 153 days in 2010, to 95 days in 2011, and further shortened to 87 days in 2012. Looking ahead, IPCC will continue, under the overriding principle of maintaining its high standard of meticulous and thorough vetting, to work with CAPO to raise the efficiency of complaints handling through the best utilization of resources.

Name in block letters: Ricky CHU

Post Title: Secretary-General,
Independent Police Complaints
Council

Date: 22.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: (121) Independent Police Complaints Council
Subhead (No. & title): (000)

Programme: (1) Police Complaints Administration

Controlling Officer: Secretary-General, Independent Police Complaints Council

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Has the Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) made a provision for actively monitoring the use of authority by the Police in large-scale public gatherings, for example, during the processions on 4 June and 1 July? If yes, how much is the estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

At present, the number of complaints cases arising from large-scale public order events is about a dozen or so every year. In the past year, IPCC has deployed its staff according to the actual circumstances, hoping to effectively monitor in a timely manner whether there are any police procedure or guideline for handling such gatherings that has caused or might cause complaints. The work included on-site observations by IPCC Members and Secretariat staff; meeting with stakeholders before and after the public order events to understand their demand and feedback on the arrangements; meeting with the Police to gain an insight of the arrangements and conveying feedback collected from Members and stakeholders; and research and analysis of issues relating to the laws, constitutions, human rights and overseas experience relating to public order events. These work were initiated by IPCC all on its own since last year.

IPCC has not made a standing provision for these work in its 2013-14 estimates. The Council will continue to deploy resources for such monitoring work according to the actual circumstances.

Name in block letters: Ricky CHU

Post Title: Secretary-General,
Independent Police Complaints
Council

Date: 22.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

SB260

Question Serial No.

3651

Head: (121) Independent Police Complaints Subhead (No. & title): Not specified
Council

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Secretary-General, Independent Police Complaints Council

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Relating to records management in the department in the past three years (up to 2012) :

1. The number of designated staff and their respective ranks responsible for daily records management; in case there is no designated staff responsible for such, please provide information on the number of staff, estimated hours involved in records management and their other duties apart from records management.
2. Please list out those sealed case and administrative files pending examination by the Government Records Service, using the table below:

File type	Covering period	Number of files and linear meters	Year sent to GRS	Years determined to be kept by GRS	Confidential or not

3. Please list out the case and administrative files transferred to the Government Records Service for storage, using the table below:

File type	Covering period	Number of files and linear meters	Year sent to GRS	Years determined to be kept by GRS	Confidential or not

4. Please list out the case and administrative files approved for destruction by Government Records Service, using the table below:

File type	Covering period	Number of files and linear meters	Year sent to GRS	Years determined to be kept by GRS	Confidential or not

Reply:

1. The Deputy Secretary-General of Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) is designated to assist the Secretary-General to oversee the records management policy of IPCC so as to ensure its proper implementation, and to encourage all employees' adherence to such policy in daily handling of records.

There is no designated staff responsible for daily records management. All staff in the ranks of Corporate Services Officer, Personal Secretary and Administrative Assistant (a total of 14 headcounts, as at 8 March 2013, approximately one-third of the total headcount) assist their superiors in opening new files, updating file records and checking those due for disposal. The other duties they are required to undertake in addition to records management and the estimated hours involved in records management are set out as follows:

Rank	Duties other than records management	Estimated hours involved in records management
Corporate Services Officer	Assist in general administration, review and supervise the daily work of Administrative Assistants, arrange for circulation of complaint cases and documents to IPCC Members, handle telephone or in-person public enquiries, assist in preparation of statistics relating to public enquiries and complaint cases, and perform simple drafting etc.	Around 10-15% of total workload
Personal Secretary	Type and proofread all letters, memos, minutes, charts, reports and other confidential documents, handle e-mails and research through internet, coordinate meetings, interviews and social gatherings, and update working schedules etc.	Around 10% of total workload
Administrative Assistant	Provide clerical support for superiors, including safekeeping and updating case records, arranging for circulation of documents, acting as support team for Council and Committee meetings e.g. photocopying and distribution of documents; back-office support for IPCC public relations and other external activities, support Observers' work under the Observers Scheme, handle telephone or in-person public enquiries and keep corresponding statistical figures, and input and update complaint figures into computer, etc.	Around 30% of total workload

2. IPCC has become an independent statutory body since June 2009. Since then, all the case files and administrative files belong to IPCC and no longer need to be examined, stored or approved for destruction by the Government Records Service (GRS). As such, IPCC has no case files or administrative files pending examination by GRS.

3. At the time of becoming a statutory body, IPCC passed a complete file list to GRS for examination on the latter's request. Subsequently, IPCC agreed to pass the original of 65 files which were considered by GRS as having archival value for permanent retention in 2010. The related figures are listed below:

File type	Covering period	Number of files and linear meters	Year sent to GRS	Years determined to be kept by GRS	Confidential or not
Administrative files	1990-2009	Total 65 files, no information available on the number of linear metres	2010	GRS decided that the files would be kept permanently	No

4. There is no need for IPCC to seek approval from GRS for destruction of case files or administrative files. The IPCC files would be handled according to prevailing internal guidelines on records management. Details of the files approved for destruction by IPCC in the past three years are listed below:

File type	Covering period	Number of files and linear meters	Year sent to GRS	Years determined to be kept by GRS	Confidential or not
Case Files	1990-2006	519 (15 linear metres)	Not applicable	Not applicable	No
Administrative files	1980-2010	340 (11 linear metres)	Not applicable	Not applicable	No

Name in block letters: Ricky CHU

Post Title: Secretary-General,
Independent Police Complaints
Council

Date: 22.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: (121) Independent Police Complaints Council
Subhead (No. & title): Not specified

Programme: (2) Police Complaints Administration

Controlling Officer: Secretary-General, Independent Police Complaints Council

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

The budget of IPCC has increased by 31.4% in 2013-14 as compared to the original budget in 2012-13. Would the Administration inform this Council how much is the increase in office rental? And how many staff is needed to be recruited, and their respective responsibilities?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK, Dennis

Reply:

The IPCC Secretariat moved to a new office in December 2012. The monthly rental of the new office is \$54.5 per sq. ft., \$31.5 per sq. ft. higher as compared to the former office which was in use since 1998. The area leased has also increased by 31.4% in view of an increase in headcount. As such, the annual rental payable will increase by around \$4.58 million.

In 2013-14, the Council plans to recruit 1 Senior Manager, 1 Manager, 1 Public Relations Officer, 3 administrative support staff and 1 Administrative Assistant, in order to enhance support to the Observers Scheme, handling of public enquiries and other areas of administration, as well as to promote public awareness of the role of IPCC.

Name in block letters: Ricky CHU

Post Title: Secretary-General,
Independent Police Complaints
Council

Date: 22.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: (121) Independent Police Complaints Subhead (No. & title):
Council

Programme: (1) Police Complaints Administration

Controlling Officer: Secretary-General, Independent Police Complaints Council

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

The provision of Subhead 000 Operational Expenses of the Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) is \$47,977,000, for the payment of subvention to the IPCC to cover its salaries, allowances and other operating expenses. Would IPCC inform this Council the details of the above expenses. In the coming year (2013-14), does the IPCC have concrete plans in identifying faults or deficiencies in the practices or procedures adopted by the police force, with a view to reducing the number of complaints, and how much is the budgeted expense?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Tai-fai

Reply:

Details of the Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC)'s operating expenses are set out below -

Remuneration for staff and related expenses:	\$28,000,000
Rent, rates and management fee:	\$9,000,000
Members' and Observers' allowances:	\$1,500,000
Promoting public awareness of the work of IPCC:	\$3,500,000
Other operational expenses:	\$5,977,000

In order to reduce the number of complaints, IPCC keeps a close watch during the case vetting process on whether there are faults or deficiencies in police practices and procedures that might cause or have caused complaints. In 2010/11 and 2011/12, IPCC raised 12 and 8 suggestions respectively on police practices and procedures. In 2012/13, IPCC released the *Interim Report* and *Final Report on Complaint Cases Arising from the Visit by Vice Premier Mr LI Keqiang*. The Reports set out IPCC's observations and recommendations, hoping to assist in the prevention of similar complaints in the future.

Separately, IPCC has made special arrangements to deploy manpower with a view to conducting effective and timely observations on large-scale public order events that have substantial public interest. The work include on-site observation by Members and Secretariat staff; meeting with stakeholders before and after the events to understand their demand and feedback on the arrangements; meeting with the Police to gain insights into the event arrangements and to convey feedback obtained from Members and stakeholders; as well as gathering information and conducting analysis on the legal, constitutional, human rights and overseas experience aspects of public gatherings. IPCC plans to continue with this work in 2013/14 according to the practical circumstances.

If manpower allows, IPCC hopes to start systematic research and analysis on police practices and procedures that attract a relatively higher number of complaints (for instance, traffic enforcement)

These tasks are now being conducted by the seven Vetting Teams on top of their vetting duties. The manpower costs required have already been included in the manpower part for vetting in the 2013-14 Estimates. IPCC will continue to deploy resources for such tasks according to the practical circumstances.

Name in block letters:	<u>Daniel MUI</u>
Post Title:	<u>Acting Secretary-General, Independent Police Complaints Council</u>
Date:	<u>25.3.2013</u>

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: (121) Independent Police Complaints Subhead (No. & title):
Council

Programme: (3) Police Complaints Administration

Controlling Officer: Secretary-General, Independent Police Complaints Council

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

The Administration's provision in the 2013-14 Budget has increased by 6.6%, which includes funding to recruit additional staff in order to strengthen IPCC's capacity. Would the Administration inform this Council the number of additional staff to be recruited? Separately, has the Administration evaluated whether the increase in headcount is adequate for meeting the expected rise in case numbers under Performance Indicators in 2013-14? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply:

The 2013-14 provision for IPCC is expected to be increased by \$3.1 million (6.6%), which includes additional expenditure to be incurred by the new office, expenditure for strengthening information technology systems and salaries for new staff to be recruited to enhance IPCC's capacity in various aspects.

IPCC plans to recruit 1 Senior Manager, 1 Manager, 1 Public Relations Officer, 3 administrative support staff and 1 Administrative Assistant in 2013-14, in order to enhance support to the Observers Scheme, handling public enquiries and other areas of administration, as well as to promote public awareness of the role of IPCC.

The Council expects that there will be a slight increase in the number of Reportable Complaints received from the Complaints Against Police Office in 2013-14. Furthermore, in response to heightening public expectation in recent years, IPCC foresees a substantial rise in workload in areas such as stakeholder engagement, handling public enquiries, and identifying room for improvement in any practice or procedure adopted by the police force.

IPCC will strive to achieve the best utilization of its resources to respond to the society's demand. It will continue to work towards the objective of fully discharging all functions conferred to it by the IPCC Ordinance.

Name in block
letters:

Ricky CHU

Post Title:

Secretary-General,
Independent Police Complaints
Council

Date:

22.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: (121) Independent Police Complaints Subhead (No. & title):
Council

Programme: Police Complaints Administration

Controlling Officer: Secretary-General, Independent Police Complaints Council

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

In the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14, the Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) will "strive to reduce the time taken to examine investigation reports submitted by CAPO". What is the related working target?

Asked by: Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply:

Since IPCC became a statutory body, it has been striving to increase the efficiency of vetting complaint investigation reports submitted by CAPO. The target average processing time for vetting each report is within 90 days. With continuous improvement of internal procedures and optimal use of resources in the past three years or so, the average processing time for vetting investigation reports of reportable complaints has been substantially reduced, from 153 days in 2010, to 95 days in 2011, and further shortened to 87 days in 2012. Looking ahead, IPCC will continue, under the overriding principle of maintaining its high standard of meticulous and thorough vetting, to work with CAPO to raise the efficiency of complaints handling through the best utilization of resources.

Name in block letters: Ricky CHU

Post Title: Secretary General

Date: 22.3.2013

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2013-14

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

SB265

Question Serial No.

0651

Head: (121) Independent Police Complaints Council
Subhead (No. & title): (-)

Programme: (1) Police Complaints Administration

Controlling Officer: Secretary-General, Independent Police Complaints Council

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Please inform this Council:

(1) The statistics on investigation results in the past five years by Independent Police Complaints Council:

	2008 - 2009	2009 - 2010	2010 - 2011	2011 - 2012	2012 - 2013
Substantiated / Substantiated Other Than Reported					
Not Fully Substantiated					
Unsubstantiated					
False					
No Fault					
Curtailed					
Withdrawn					
Not Pursuable					
Informally Resolved					
Total No. of Allegations					
Substantiation Rate					

(2) The statistics on allegations endorsed by the Independent Police Complaints Council in the past five years.

	2008 - 2009	2009 - 2010	2010 - 2011	2011 - 2012	2012 - 2013
Assault					
Misconduct / Improper Manner / Offensive Language					
Neglect of Duty					
Unnecessary Use of Authority					
Fabrication of Evidence					
Threat					
Police Procedures					
Other Offences					
Total No. of Allegations					

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply:

(1) The relevant figures of investigation results endorsed by the Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) in the past five years are set out below:

	2008 - 2009	2009 - 2010	2010 - 2011	2011 - 2012	2012 - 2013 (up to Feb 2013)
Allegations that have undergone full investigation					
Substantiated / Substantiated Other Than Reported	115	221	226	178	158
Not Fully Substantiated	6	29	61	54	29
Unsubstantiated	880	778	1 107	884	608
False	206	231	144	117	80
No Fault	137	342	567	596	586
Total for allegations that have undergone full investigation	1 344	1 601	2 105	1 829	1 461
Allegations which have not undergone full investigation					
Curtailed	0	8	12	16	11

Withdrawn	1 677	2 218	2 443	2 447	1 789
Not Pursuable	842	1 315	1 329	1 024	774
Informally Resolved	877	1 355	1 293	923	463
Total for allegations that have not undergone full investigation	3 396	4 896	5 077	4 410	3 037
Total No. of Allegations	4 740	6 497	7 182	6 239	4 498
Relevant Ratio of Allegations that have undergone full investigation					
Total for allegations that have undergone full investigation	1 344	1 601	2 105	1 829	1 461
Substantiation Rate ¹	9.0%	15.6%	13.6%	12.7%	12.8%
Rate of Substantive Findings Reached after Full Investigation ²	34.5%	51.4%	47.4%	51.7%	58.4%

(2) Figures on allegations endorsed by IPCC (i.e. acceptance of the classification of the relevant allegations by Complaints Against Police Office) in the past five years are set out below (figures in brackets denote the number of allegations classified as Substantiated / Substantiated Other Than Reported/ Not Fully Substantiated):

	2008 - 2009	2009 - 2010	2010 - 2011	2011 - 2012	2012 - 2013 (up to Feb 2013)
Assault	601 (1)	556 (2)	515 (0)	417 (1)	295 (1)
Misconduct / Improper Manner / Offensive Language	1 683 (11)	2 419 (24)	2 632 (58)	2 271 (33)	1 650 (27)
Neglect of Duty	1 689 (102)	2 686 (216)	3 211 (216)	2 910 (178)	2 133 (142)
Unnecessary Use of	333 (7)	334 (7)	341 (13)	270 (13)	191 (15)

¹ The ratio of allegations endorsed by IPCC which are classified as “Substantiated / Substantiated Other Than Reported” and “Not Fully Substantiated”, to the total number of allegations which have undergone full investigation.

² The ratio of allegations endorsed by IPCC with classifications other than “Unsubstantiated”, within fully-investigated allegations.

Authority					
Fabrication of Evidence	184 (0)	191 (0)	157 (0)	145 (2)	89 (1)
Threat	234 (0)	285 (0)	294 (0)	209 (1)	128 (0)
Police Procedures	15 (0)	18 (0)	19 (0)	13 (3)	10 (1)
Other Offences	1 (0)	8 (0)	13 (0)	4 (1)	2 (0)
Total No. of Allegations	4 740 (121)	6 497 (249)	7 182 (287)	6 239 (232)	4 498 (187)

Name in block letters: Daniel MUI

Acting Secretary-General,
Independent Police Complaints
Council

Post Title: _____

Date: 25.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: (121) Independent Police Complaints Council
Subhead (No. & title): Not specified

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Secretary-General, Independent Police Complaints Council

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

One of the reasons for the increased provision to IPCC in 2013-14 as compared to 2012-13 is recruiting additional staff. In this regard, would the Administration provide the following information:

- a) Please list out the number of staff employed under civil service terms and non-civil service contracts ;
- b) Please list out the number of posts the department plans to delete and create by rank and function;
- c) Please list out the establishment and strength of different ranks in 2012-13 and 2013-14 by programme.

Asked by: Hon. POON Siu-ping

Reply:

- a) The Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) has become an independent body corporate upon commencement of the IPCC Ordinance, and has recruited its own staff under s.6 of the Ordinance to gradually replace civil servants seconded to the IPCC Secretariat. At present, all staff in the Secretariat is employed by the Council. There are neither civil servants nor staff employed under non-civil service contracts. As at 8 March 2013, there are 42 staff in the IPCC Secretariat.
- b) The following is a list of the number of posts IPCC Secretariat plans to create, by rank and function :

<u>Function</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>No.</u>
To support the Observers Scheme, Council matters and public enquiries	Senior Manager	1
	Manager	1
	Administrative Assistant	1
To promote public awareness of the role of the Council	Public Relations Officer	1
Administrative support	Corporate Services Officer	2
	Accounting Officer	1

The IPCC Secretariat has no plans to delete any posts in 2013-14.

- c) The establishment and strength of the IPCC Secretariat in 2012-13 and 2013-14 are listed below according to rank:

Programme : Police Complaints Administration

<u>Post</u>	<u>2012-13</u>		<u>2013-14</u>	
	<u>Establishment</u>	<u>Strength</u>	<u>Establishment</u>	<u>Strength (expected)</u>
Secretary-General	1	1	1	1
Deputy Secretary-General	1	1	1	1
Legal Adviser	1	1	1	1
Assistant Secretary-General	1	1	1	1
Senior Vetting Officer	7	7	7	7
Senior Manager	2	2	3	3
Vetting Officer	7	7	7	7
Manager	3	2	4	4
Assistant Manager	2	2	0	0
Personal Secretary	1	1	1	1
Corporate Services Officer	1	1	3	3
Public Relations Officer	0	0	1	1
Assistant Public Relations Officer	1	1	0	0
Information Technology Officer	1	1	1	1
Accounting Officer	0	0	1	1
Administrative Assistant	12	12	13	13
General Assistant	2	2	2	2
Total	43	42	47	47

Name in block letters: Ricky CHU

Post Title: Secretary-General

Date: 22.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: (121) Independent Police Complaints Subhead (No. & title):
Council

Programme: (1) Police Complaints Administration

Controlling Officer: Secretary-General, Independent Police Complaints Council

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Concerning the additional provision for the Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) in 2013-14 for recruiting additional staff "to strengthen IPCC's capacity", please list out:

- a) The number, rank and expenditure involved of the additional staff required by IPCC;
- b) The current staffing and expenditure of the Observers Scheme;
- c) Since the establishment of the above Scheme, has the Administration evaluated its effectiveness? If yes, what are the details? If not, why?

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Puk-sun, Michael

Reply:

- (a) The IPCC plans to recruit 1 Senior Manager, 1 Manager, 1 Public Relations Officer, 3 administrative support staff and 1 Administrative Assistant in 2013-14. The annual expenditure is estimated to be \$2.6 million.
- (b) The Observers Scheme is established and administered in accordance with Part 4 of the IPCC Ordinance (Cap. 604). Appointed independent persons would assist the IPCC to observe the manner in which the Complaints Against Police Office (CAPO) handles or investigates reportable complaints, so as to ensure that the process is fair, impartial and thorough. Currently, there are a total of 108 Observers appointed by the Secretary for Security. The IPCC Secretariat provides administrative support to the Scheme.

As at 15 March 2013, there were mainly 1 Senior Manager (also responsible for other duties), 1 Assistant Manager and 2 Administrative Assistants supporting the Observers Scheme. The total expenditure of the Scheme, including travelling allowance for the Observers, was \$805,000 in 2011-12. The total expenditure in the first ten months of 2012-13 (i.e. April 2012 to January 2013) was \$867,000.

- (c) IPCC Members scrutinize the Observers Scheme statistics every quarter, including the ratio and nature of observations, post-observation comments by Observers and the progress of follow-up actions. Furthermore, the Secretariat and CAPO conduct working meetings to exchange opinion on the operation of the Scheme. Since mid-January 2013, IPCC has introduced a brand-new electronic platform for the Observers, to facilitate reservations and the subsequent submission of observation reports.

In 2011-12, the Observers conducted 2,021 observations on interviews or collection of evidence in respect of reportable complaints, an increase of 2.4% as compared to 2010-11, representing 47.5% of the

total notified interviews and collection of evidence in that year. Requests for Observers by complainants or complainees increased from 203 in 2010-11 to 269 (+33%) in 2011-12. In the first nine months of 2012-13, 215 requests were received. This indicates a steady rise in the general public's awareness and confidence in the Observers Scheme.

Name in block letters: Ricky CHU

Post Title: Secretary-General,
Independent Police Complaints
Council

Date: 22.3.2013