

Press Release

IPCC releases its 2021/22 Report

Driving change and building trust together

(HONG KONG – 29 December 2022) The Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) today held a media briefing to publish its 13th Report since becoming a statutory body.

During the reporting period of 2021/22, the IPCC received investigation reports from Complaints Against Police Office (CAPO) on 1,590 new Reportable Complaint cases, representing a year-on-year increase of 16.7%. During the same period, the IPCC endorsed 1,705 Reportable Complaint cases, representing a year-on-year increase of 22.7%.

The endorsed Reportable Complaint cases involved a total of 2,747 allegations, representing a year-on-year increase of 18.9%. Over 90% of the total number of allegations were minor in nature, including “Misconduct/ Improper Manner/ Offensive Language” (1,307 allegations, 47.6%), and “Neglect of Duty” (1,169 allegations, 42.6%).

The Council deems it in the public interest to focus resources on handling complaint cases that are more serious in nature or require thorough investigation. In view of this, the IPCC joined hands with CAPO to review and enhance the procedures for handling minor complaints in four key areas:

1. requiring complainants to provide complete information, including full name, identity card number and means of contact when filing complaints;
2. employing new technology, such as online meeting software, to conduct interviews with complainees in order to expedite the investigation processes;
3. streamlining the workflow of cases handled by Informal Resolution; and
4. inviting complainees' supervisors to attend Informal Resolution interviews with a view to strengthening supervision and accountability.

Ms Priscilla WONG Pui-sze, SBS, JP, Chairman of the IPCC, said, "The IPCC handles each complaint strictly on the basis of fact and evidence. The Council has been working with the police to review the operation of the complaints mechanism in whole so as to improve the efficiency of complaints investigation and ensure more effective utilisation of public resources."

"The Council noted with concern that during the reporting period, more than 55% of the total number of allegations were classified as 'Not Pursuable' or 'Withdrawn'. One of the main reasons was that the complainants were out of reach after filing their complaints despite multiple contacts. The Council reiterates that lodging a complaint is a solemn act. Whenever a complainant lodges a complaint, he ought to provide valid means of contact and complete details regarding the complaint and to cooperate with CAPO in the investigation. This is the basic responsibility of a complainant that comes with the right to make a complaint," said IPCC Chairman.

Secretary-General Mr Daniel MUI remarked: "The IPCC took note that there were 62 allegations classified as 'False' during the reporting period, representing a

sharp increase of 72.2% over the 36 ‘False’ allegations in the previous year. In any event, the IPCC and the police will handle each complaint in a fair manner. If there is sufficient evidence indicating that the officer being complained against has room for improvement, the IPCC ought to point it out; if there is malicious and false allegation against a police officer, the IPCC will also handle it impartially.”

During the reporting period, the IPCC raised a total of 1,284 Queries to CAPO. These Queries mainly focused on the clarification of information in investigation reports (51.6%), and the classification of investigation results (29.4%). Pursuant to the Queries raised by the IPCC, the investigation results of 150 allegations were changed to more definite classifications, including “Substantiated”, “Not Fully Substantiated”, “No Fault” and “False”. These 150 allegations accounted for 17.0% of the total number of allegations that required full investigation.

The IPCC also arranges for Observers to attend CAPO’s interviews with complainants, complainees, witnesses, and to observe CAPO’s collection of evidence in accordance with the statutory power conferred by the IPCC Ordinance. During the reporting period, IPCC Observers attended 1,848 sessions with an attendance rate of 99.1%, which was on the rise for the sixth consecutive year (*Please refer to Annex for more statistics*).

Mr Clement CHAN Kam-wing, MH, JP, Chairman of the Publicity and Community Relations Committee, said, “Apart from carrying out statutory duties including observing, monitoring and reviewing the handling and investigation of Reportable Complaints by the police, the IPCC also identifies areas of police practices or procedures that can be improved in the complaint vetting process and

proposes pragmatic Service Quality Improvement Initiatives (SQIIs) to the police with a view to reducing complaints and assisting the force in enhancing their services to the community. During the reporting period, the IPCC put forward a total of 24 SQIIs.” *(Please refer to pp. 63-66 of the 2021/22 Report)*

IPCC Chairman Ms Priscilla WONG concluded: “The IPCC has proposed over 200 SQIIs in the past 13 years. The increase in the number of SQIIs over time has resulted in the reduction of the number of complaints. Moving forward, the Council will continue to make recommendations in different areas such as police practices, training and the use of technology, in a bid to ‘drive change’ with the force by optimising their service quality, and ‘build trust together’ to strengthen public confidence in the two-tier complaints system.”

The IPCC 2021/22 Report is available on the IPCC website:

https://www.ipcc.gov.hk/en/publications/annual_report/2021.html.

###

獨立監察警方處理投訴委員會 2021/22 工作報告
Report of the Independent Police Complaints Council 2021/22

數字摘要 Fact Sheet

接獲及通過的須匯報投訴個案數字
Number of Reportable Complaint cases received and endorsed

| <u>p.34</u> | 2021/22 | 2020/21 |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| 接獲的須匯報投訴個案 Reportable Complaint cases received | 1,590 | 1,363 |
| 通過的須匯報投訴個案 Reportable Complaint cases endorsed | 1,705 | 1,390 |

監警會通過的指控 Allegations endorsed by the IPCC

| <u>p.35</u> | 2021/22 | 2020/21 |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| 指控總數 Total number of allegations | 2,747 | 2,311 |

其中主要的三項指控
Three major allegations

| <u>p.35</u> | 2021/22 | 2020/21 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| 行為不當／態度欠佳／粗言穢語 Misconduct/ Improper Manner/ Offensive Language | 1,307 | 1,011 |
| 疏忽職守 Neglect of Duty | 1,169 | 968 |
| 毆打 Assault | 119 | 168 |

監警會通過的調查結果
Investigation results of allegations endorsed by the IPCC

| <i>p.37</i> | 2021/22 | 2020/21 |
|----------------------------------------------------|--------------|---------|
| 經全面調查 Required full investigation | | |
| 獲證明屬實 Substantiated | 83 | 72 |
| 未經舉報但證明屬實 Substantiated Other Than Reported | 44 | 18 |
| 無法完全證明屬實 Not Fully Substantiated | 6 | 4 |
| 無法證實 Unsubstantiated | 289 | 208 |
| 並無過錯 No Fault | 397 | 364 |
| 虛假不確 False | 62 | 36 |
| 小計 Subtotal | 881 | 702 |
| 無需進行全面調查 Did not require full investigation | | |
| 透過簡便方式解決 Informally Resolved | 335 | 239 |
| 投訴撤回 Withdrawn | 705 | 606 |
| 無法追查 Not Pursuable | 826 | 764 |
| 小計 Subtotal | 1,866 | 1,609 |
| 總數 Total | 2,747 | 2,311 |

警方就監警會通過的投訴個案向違規的警務人員採取的行動
Police actions taken against defaulting officers in cases endorsed by the IPCC

| <i>p.40</i> | 2021/22 | 2020/21 |
|---------------------------|------------|---------|
| 刑事訴訟 Criminal proceedings | 7 | 0 |
| 紀律覆檢 Disciplinary review | 2 | 8 |
| 警告 Warnings | 34 | 28 |
| 訓諭 Advice | 96 | 53 |
| 總數 Total | 139 | 89 |

監警會向投訴警察課提出的質詢
Queries raised by the IPCC to CAPO

| <i>p.42</i> | 2021/22 | 2020/21 |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------|
| 質詢總數 Total number of Queries | 1,284 | 1,445 |

監警會通過的再分類調查結果
Change of investigation classification endorsed by the IPCC

| <i>p.44</i> | 2021/22 | 2020/21 |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| 指控總數 Total number of allegations | 225 | 197 |
| 再分類為「獲證明屬實」 Reclassified to “Substantiated” | 35 | 34 |
| 再分類「無法完全證明屬實」 Reclassified to “Not Fully Substantiated” | 6 | 4 |
| 再分類為「並無過錯」 Reclassified to “No Fault” | 85 | 81 |
| 再分類為「虛假不確」 Reclassified to “False” | 24 | 8 |

就改善警隊常規和程序提出的建議
Recommended improvements to police practices and procedures

| <i>p.45</i> | 2021/22 | 2020/21 |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| 建議總數 Total number of suggestions | 24 | 22 |

觀察數字及觀察員出席率

Number of observations and attendance rate of IPCC Observers

| <u>p.47</u> | 2021/22 | 2020/21 |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|
| 觀察數字 Number of observations | 1,848 | 2,198 |
| 出席率 Attendance rate | 99.1% | 98.7% |

須知會投訴個案數字

Number of Notifiable Complaint cases

| <u>p.48</u> | 2021/22 | 2020/21 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| 經監警會審核的須知會投訴個案 Notifiable Complaint cases examined by the IPCC | 690 | 860 |
| 重新歸類為須匯報投訴 Cases re-categorised as Reportable Complaints | 2 | 1 |

###