

政府總部
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GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT
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7 May 2007

Mrs Sharon Tong
Clerk to LegCo Panel on Security
Legislative Council
3/F Citibank Tower
3 Garden Road
Central

Dear Mrs Tong,

Panel on Security

Handling of Guns by the Police

Thank you for your letter of 30 April 2007 attaching the revised agenda for the coming meeting of the Panel on Security on 8 May 2007.

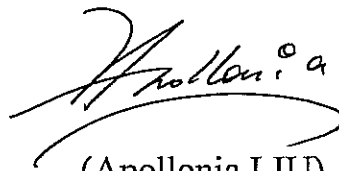
You also advised in your letter that the Panel wished to seek the Administration's clarification as to whether the outcome of the Police's investigation on the incident of a police officer dropping his gun on 9 February 2007 must first be reviewed by the Independent Police Complaint Council (IPCC) before submitting it to the Panel.

As explained in our earlier letter of 20 April 2007, while the Police received a complaint on specific aspects of the incident, they had started a review immediately after the incident and before they received the complaint. The review will cover a broader scope than what the IPCC will need to cover for the purpose of reviewing the Police's handling of the complaint and clearance of the Police's reply to the complainant. Given the difference in nature and scope of this review from usual investigations into complaint cases, we do not see a need for the outcome of this broader review to be reviewed by the IPCC.

As outlined in our earlier letter, we shall revert to the Panel on the outcome of the review in question at the first opportunity after it has been completed. Currently, we do not have an estimate of the time that we would take to complete our review. We are also not in a position to foresee whether the IPCC would have completed its consideration of the complaint in question by then. That said, without prejudice to the consideration of the investigation on the complaint on the case by the IPCC, the Administration's aim is to revert as soon as we have completed our review, regardless of whether the IPCC has completed its consideration of the complaint case then.

I should be grateful if you would bring this to Members' attention.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Apollonia LIU". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

(Apollonia LIU)
for Secretary for Security