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Hon Dr Fernando CHEUNG  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Strategy and Measures  
to Tackle Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence

30<sup>th</sup> April 2015

Dear Dr CHEUNG,

Re: Panel on Welfare Services

Subcommittee on Strategy and Measures to  
Tackle Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence

Thank you for your letter dated 2015-04-16.

The Hong Kong Police Force is committed to tackling violent crime and providing the highest level of service and support to all victims of crime.

Police procedures were amended in response to amendments to the Domestic and Cohabitation Relationships Violence Ordinance (Cap. 189). A new category of 'Family Violence' (FV(CRM)) was introduced in 2009, and, along with the then existing areas of focus prior to the amendments, namely Domestic Violence, Child Abuse, Elder Abuse and Sexual Violence, Police continue to offer specialized services to an ever wider scope of 'relationships' than those set out as in Cap. 189.

The table below details the number of FV (CRM) reports handled

by Police over the past 5 years –

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
No of FV Reports Received	1,140	953	979	859	830

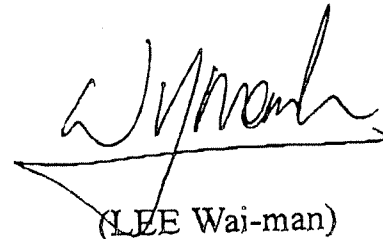
To further strengthen our domestic violence response mechanism, Police introduced 'Domestic Incident' (DI) as one of the sub-categories under the overall title of 'Domestic Conflict Reports' (DCR), where no criminal offence had been committed. The main objectives were to offer timely intervention and support services to the parties involved in a DI so as to prevent the situation from escalating. Furthermore, the inclusion of DI reports in the Enhanced Centralized Domestic Violence Database enables front line officers to retrieve previous reports on domestic conflicts, allowing for better risk assessment and appropriate action to be taken at each and every scene.

Police invite the involved parties of all DCRs for referral to the Social Welfare Department. Where considered necessary, Police may also utilize the exemptions under section 58(2) of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (Cap. 486) to refer any individuals involved in a DCR to the Social Welfare Department without the consent of the individual. The number of DCRs referred to the Social Welfare Department in the past five years ranged from 7 326 to 9 017, representing a referral rate of 50.5% and 61.8% of all DCRs handled by Police respectively.

The Police operational guidelines, including the Emergency Referral Questionnaire and Action Checklist, are internal guidelines intended for Police officers' reference only and are not to be released to the public.

In case of further inquiries, please contact the undersigned at 2860 8147 or the subject officer, Woman Detective Senior Inspector Corey TSO Wing-in at 2860 2577.

Yours sincerely,



(LEE Wai-man)  
for Commissioner of Police