Bills Committee on Independent Police Complaints Council Bill

Response to issues raised at the Bills Committee meeting held on 6 November 2007 (2)

Purpose

At the Bills Committee meeting held on 6 November 2007, the Administration was requested to advise whether the proposed statutory Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) is expected to manage its secretariat, and to provide information on whether there are existing statutory bodies (comprising non-full time members) managing their own staff. This note sets out the relevant information for Members' reference.

Arrangements for Other Statutory Bodies

- 2. To enhance the IPCC's independence, clause 5 of the Bill empowers the statutory IPCC to appoint its own staff, including a Secretary, a Legal Adviser and such other employees as it requires to assist it in performing its functions, and to engage any person for his technical or professional services. The secretariat to the statutory IPCC will be managed by and responsible to the statutory IPCC. Examples of existing statutory bodies (comprising non-full time members) managing their own staff* include -
 - (a) Employees Retraining Board (ERB) The ERB, established under the Employees Retraining Ordinance, provides retraining to eligible workers to assist them to take on new or enhanced skills so that they can adjust to changes in the economic environment, and have their employability enhanced. The Board comprises 13 non-government members and 2 Government representatives. Its executive arm is the Executive

^{*} The member of staff quoted in this paper for existing statutory bodies show the position as at November 2007.

Office with 108 staff headed by the Executive Director. The ERB is assisted by its Finance and Administration Committee in overseeing, among other things, major human resource issues and administrative matters of the ERB. The non-government members of the ERB are not remunerated or paid honorarium;

- (b) Construction Industry Training Authority (CITA) CITA is established under the Industrial Training (Construction Industry) Its functions include providing training courses for Ordinance. the construction industry, assisting in the placement of persons completing training courses, making recommendations with respect to the rate of construction industry levy, assessing the standards of skills achieved by construction workers through trade tests and issue certificates of competence. CITA comprises 11 non-government members and 2 government officials. It has an establishment of 388 staff headed by the Executive Director and has established the Committee on Administration and Human Resources to make recommendations and advise on human resources issues. The non-official members of CITA are not remunerated or paid honorarium;
- (c) Estate Agents Authority (EAA) The EAA, established under the Estate Agents Ordinance, regulates the practice of estate agencies in Hong Kong, promotes integrity and competence within the industry, and facilitates training for practitioners to ensure competency and proper standard of conduct. The Authority comprises 19 non-government members and one Government representative. It has 81 staff headed by the Chief Executive Officer. The Authority is assisted by its Finance and Strategic Development Committee in overseeing, among other things, major human resources issues of the EAA. The non-government members of the EAA are not remunerated or paid honorarium;
- (d) <u>Hong Kong Arts Development Council (HKADC)</u> The HKADC, established under the Hong Kong Arts Development Council Ordinance, plans, promotes and supports the broad

development of the arts in Hong Kong. The Council comprises 24 non-government members and 3 Government representatives. It has an Administration Office with 39 staff headed by a Chief Executive. The Council's Management Committee assists it in overseeing major human resources issues. The non-government members of the HKADC are not remunerated or paid honorarium;

- (e) Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health (COSH) The COSH was established under the Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health Ordinance. It informs and educates the public on the harm of smoking and its adverse effect on health; conducts and coordinates research into the cause, prevention and cure of tobacco dependence; and advises the Government, community health organizations and any public body on matters relating to smoking and health. The Council comprises 15 non-government members and two Government representatives. It has a secretariat with 10 staff headed by the Executive Director. The Council's Executive Committee oversees, among other things, major administrative and human resources issues of the COSH. The non-government members of the COSH are not remunerated or paid honorarium;
- (f) Occupational Safety and Health Council (OSHC) The OSHC, established under the Occupational Safety and Health Council Ordinance, fosters safer and healthier working conditions in Hong Kong. The Council comprises 15 non-government members and 3 Government representatives. It has a secretariat with 62 staff headed by the Executive Director. The Council is assisted by its Administration Committee in overseeing, among other things, major administrative and human resources issues of the OSHC. The non-government members of the OSHC are not remunerated or paid honorarium;
- (g) <u>Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority</u>
 (HKEAA) The HKEAA was established under the Hong Kong
 Examinations and Assessment Authority Ordinance. It plans

and conducts (whether on its own, or jointly with or as agent for other persons and organizations) examinations and assessments in Hong Kong or elsewhere. The Authority comprises 16 non-government members and one Government representative. It has a secretariat with 340 full-time staff headed by the Secretary-General. The Authority is assisted by its Human Resources Committee in overseeing major human resources matters. The non-government members of the Authority receive a travelling allowance of \$90 per meeting; and

(h) Consumer Council (CC) – The CC was established under the Consumer Council Ordinance. It protects and promotes the interests of consumers of goods and services and purchasers, mortgagors and lessees of immovable property. The Council comprises 22 non-government members. Its executive arm is the CC Office with 124 staff headed by the Chief Executive. The Council is assisted by its Staff and Finance Committee in overseeing, among other things, major human resources matters of the CC. CC members receive honorarium at a rate of \$150 per meeting.

Security Bureau November 2007