## 立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)1944/08-09 (These minutes have been seen by the Administration)

Ref: CB2/PS/1/08

#### **Panel on Security**

# Subcommittee on Police's Handling of Sex Workers and Searches of Detainees

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday, 2 June 2009, at 8:30 am in Conference Room B of the Legislative Council Building

Members : Hon James TO Kun-sun (Chairman)
present Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, SBS,

Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, SBS, JP Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee, SC, JP

Hon WONG Kwok-kin, BBS

**Member** : Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan

attending

**Members** : Hon Albert HO Chun-yan

**absent** Dr Hon Philip WONG Yu-hong, GBS

Hon WONG Yung-kan, SBS, JP

Hon LAU Kong-wah, JP

Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP

Hon WONG Yuk-man

**Public Officers** : <u>Item I</u>

attending

Mrs Apollonia LIU

Principal Assistant Secretary for Security

Ms Emily MO

Assistant Secretary for Security

Mr Austin KERRIGAN

Assistant Commissioner of Police (Support)

Mr NG Sai-kuen

Chief Superintendent of Police (Crime HQ) (Crime Wing)

Mr Matthew Darron LINDSAY

Superintendent of Police (General) (Support Branch)

Mr Eddy SIT

Chief Inspector Custody Management and Detention (Support)

Mr Eddy TONG

Chief Inspector, Crime HQ(1) (HQ Group) (Crime Wing)

Clerk in attendance

Mr Raymond LAM

Chief Council Secretary (2) 1

Staff in attendance

Mr LEE Yu-sung

Senior Assistant Legal Adviser 1

Miss Josephine SO

Senior Council Secretary (2) 1

#### I. Meeting with the Administration

The Subcommittee deliberated (index of proceedings attached at Annex).

- 2. The Subcommittee requested the Administration to -
  - (a) provide the Subcommittee with the most updated version of the custody search form (Pol. 1123), Police General Order 49-04 and Force Procedures Manual 49-04;
  - (b) confirm whether the Police had, in conducting the internal review on the handling of searches conducted on the arrestees involved in the Lee Tung Street incident, made any attempt to contact the arrestees and to collect more information concerning their allegations against the Police;
  - (c) provide further information in respect of the cases involving ten sex workers referred to in paragraph 6 of LC Paper No. CB(2)1630/08-09(01) as to how many of the premises in question

were previously known to be "one sex worker apartments" but found to have two or more sex workers working on the same premises during the enforcement actions taken by the Police;

- (d) investigate into the complaint cases as referred to in the submission from Zi Teng (LC Paper No. CB(2)1631/08-09(01)), and report the follow-up actions taken by the Administration to the Subcommittee; and
- (e) consider providing, on a restricted basis if necessary, the report on the internal review conducted by the Police regarding the Lee Tung Street incident.

#### II. Date of next meeting

- 3. <u>The Chairman</u> reminded members that the next meeting would be held on 24 June 2009 from 8:30 am to 10:30 am.
- 4. The meeting ended at 9:55 am.

Council Business Division 2 <u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u> 18 June 2009

### Proceedings of meeting of the Subcommittee on Police's Handling of Sex Workers and Searches of Detainees on Tuesday, 2 June 2009, at 8:30 am in Conference Room B of the Legislative Council Building

Time Marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action Required
000000 - 000621	Chairman	Opening remarks	
000622 - 001659	Admin	Briefing on the Administration's paper entitled "Report on Stage Two of the Review on the Police's Practices regarding the Search of Detainees" (LC Paper No. CB(2)1706/08-09(01))	
		Implementation of improvement measures as suggested by the Subcommittee on Police's Handling of Searches of Detainees and additional improvement measures (paragraphs 5 to 7 of and Annex A to LC Paper No. CB(2)1706/08-09(01))	
		Further improvement measures under consideration (paragraph 8 of and Annex B to LC Paper No. CB(2)1706/08-09(01))	
001700 - 002535	Chairman Admin	Administration's response to issues raised by members at the Subcommittee meeting on 27 April 2009 (LC Paper No. CB(2)1630/08-09(01))	
002536 - 004206	Chairman Hon Audrey EU Admin	Requested that the most updated version of the custody search form (Pol. 1123), Police General Order 49-04 and Force Procedures Manual 49-04 should be provided to the Subcommittee	Admin to provide the requested information (paragraph 2(a) of the minutes refers)
		Whether the Police had, in conducting the internal review on the handling of searches conducted on the arrestees involved in the Lee Tung Street incident, made any attempt to contact the arrestees and to collect more information concerning their allegations, apart from making reference to statements provided by the officers involved in the handling of searches on these detainees and media reports quoting the allegations made by some of the detainees	Admin to provide the requested information (paragraph 2(b) of the minutes refers)

Time Marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action Required
		Supplementary information on the complaint case cited by Hon Albert CHAN where officers in the Tin Shui Wai Police Station were alleged to have conducted unreasonable and unnecessary searches involving complete removal of clothing on a woman who was arrested for wounding others; the woman was arrested on 23 May 2008 before the implementation of the new arrangements for the handling of searches of detainees on 1 July 2008; the searches conducted on her were carried out to ensure that the Police could fulfill the duty of care towards the detainee  Advised that a new arrangement removing the mandatory requirement for conducting repeated custody searches on detainees upon temporary removal from the temporary holding area or police cell was implemented from 19 April 2009 onwards (paragraph 5 of LC Paper No.	Required
004207 - 010315	Hon Audrey EU Chairman Admin	Further details on cases recorded in 2008 which involved the provision of sex service by two sex workers in one apartment  Regarding the cases involving ten sex workers referred to in paragraph 6 of LC Paper No. CB(2)1630/08-09(01)), sought information on how many of the premises in question were previously known to be "one sex worker apartments" but found to have two or more sex workers working on the same premises during the enforcement actions taken by the Police  Reiterated that enforcement actions against one sex worker apartments would only be taken when there were reports or information indicating the occurrence of crime on these premises  Possibility of sex workers working in one sex worker apartments being induced by officers undertaking undercover operations to commit the offence of "provision of sex service by two sex workers in one apartment"; whether the Police's internal	Admin to provide the requested information (paragraph 2(c) of the minutes refers)

Time Marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action Required
		guidelines governing anti-vice operations prohibited Police officers undertaking undercover operations from enticing sex workers to commit such an offence	
010316 - 011435	Hon Cyd HO Admin Chairman	Considered that the Police's internal guidelines governing anti-vice operations should be amended to prohibit Police officers undertaking undercover operations from enticing sex workers to commit crime, including the provision of sex service by two sex workers in one apartment  Suggested that the Police should consider establishing a complaint mechanism	
		independent of the Complaints Against Police Office for sex workers to seek redress against Police officers	
		Considered that the existing police complaint system should be enhanced, so as to ensure the confidentiality of complaints from sex workers and to prevent possible tipping off of officers who were the subject of complaints; suggested that the Police should consider setting up a hotline or appointing a senior ranking Police officer to receive complaints from sex workers	
		Difficulties faced by the Police in following up anonymous complaints against Police officers undertaking undercover operations; investigation could only be carried out if the persons who felt aggrieved were willing to provide information	
		Objectives and frequency of visits by Police officers to one sex worker apartments (paragraphs 8 & 9 of LC Paper No. CB(2)1630/08-09(01))	
011436 - 012125	Hon Cyd HO Admin Chairman	Submission from Zi Teng dated 19 May 2009 (LC Paper No. CB(2)1630/08-09(02))  Considered that the Police should give greater assurance to sex workers that their	
		complaints, if lodged, would be kept in confidence and handled by a designated	

Time Marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action Required
		Police officer in an impartial, equitable and proper manner	
		Stressed that investigation could only be carried out with the person who felt aggrieved by any Police action being willing to lodge a complaint and to provide the necessary information	
012126 - 012815	Chairman Admin Cyd HO	Confidential submission from Zi Teng (LC Paper No. CB(2)1631/08-09(01)); requested that the Administration should investigate into the complaint cases as referred to in the submission, and report the follow-up actions taken by the Administration to the Subcommittee	Admin to follow up and investigate into the complaint cases (paragraph 2(d) of the minutes refers)
		Requested that the report on the internal review conducted by the Police regarding the Lee Tung Street incident should be provided to members, on a restricted basis if necessary	Admin to consider members' request and provide a response (paragraph 2(e) of the minutes refers)
012816 - 012822	Chairman	Date of next meeting	

Council Business Division 2 <u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u> 18 June 2009