For information on 5 June 2012

# Legislative Council Panel on Security Independent Police Complaints Council's Report (Interim) on Complaint Cases Arising from the Visit by the Vice Premier Mr LI Keqiang

### Introduction

The Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) released an interim report on 3 May 2012, which covers its examination of the complaint cases arising from the policing arrangements during the visit by the Vice Premier of the State Council of the Central People's Government Mr LI Keqiang to Hong Kong in August last year. The IPCC provided the report to the Legislative Council Panel on Security on the same day for members' reference (LC Paper No. CB(2)1891/11-12(01)).

### Complaints handled by the Complaints Against Police Office

- 2. The Complaints Against Police Office (CAPO) under the Hong Kong Police Force received 16 reportable complaints and six notifiable complaints in connection with the policing arrangements during the Vice Premier's visit to Hong Kong. The subject matters of these complaints revolved around the issues such as closure of footbridge, clearance of pedestrians, security arrangements at the University of Hong Kong, locations of Designated Public Activity Areas and Designated Press Areas, and execution of police powers. To ensure that the complaints arising from the Vice Premier's visit would be dealt with expeditiously, efficiently and thoroughly, the CAPO established a special duty team at the early stage to conduct the investigations and make every effort to assist the IPCC in its examination work. In handling and investigating the complaints arising from the Vice Premier's visit, CAPO has always worked independently and upheld the highest levels of impartiality and professionalism through strict observance of the protocols and practical working agreements as agreed by the IPCC.
- 3. During the period when the CAPO investigated the reportable complaints, the Police held working meetings with the IPCC at its request to discuss the contents of the investigation reports of complaint cases, including the classification of the allegations and the findings. IPCC members or its observers observed the CAPO's interviews and collection of evidence in the investigation of complaints under the mechanism of the

Independent Police Complaints Council Ordinance. The CAPO has conducted a total of 109 interviews or evidence collections, 106 of them (over 97%) were attended by IPCC members or its observers on a prearranged or surprise basis.

# **IPCC Interim Report**

- 4. The IPCC Interim Report mainly sets out the 16 reportable complaints investigated by the CAPO as well as the details and progress of the monitoring and examination of these complaints by the IPCC.
- 5. As far as the 16 reportable complaints are concerned, the IPCC has endorsed the CAPO's findings on nine cases and is following up with the CAPO on the findings of the other six cases. For the remaining reportable complaint case, the IPCC agreed with the CAPO that investigation into the case could be held in abeyance on the grounds of sub-judice, as the complainant has been charged with an offence related to the incident of the complaint and the trial of which was still pending.

## The Way Forward

- 6. The Police accepted the IPCC's endorsement of the investigation reports of nine of the cases submitted by the CAPO, and will critically review the endorsed cases in order to identify any areas for improvement. The Police will continue to render full support to the IPCC and assist it in the examination of the remaining complaint cases.
- 7. In addition, the Police have conducted a Review of the policing arrangements during the visit of Vice Premier Li Keqiang. The Review focused on three areas including police liaison with external stakeholders, liaison with the community and the media, and engagement with demonstrators. In reviewing these areas, specific emphasis was placed on identifying areas of improvement that could be considered for policing similar protective security operations in the future. The Panel on Security discussed the Review on 7 February and 15 March 2012. The Police will follow up the recommendations of the Review Report proactively in order to improve the arrangements for similar protective security operations in the future.

Security Bureau Hong Kong Police Force May 2012