

財經事務及庫務局

香港添馬添美道二號
政府總部二十四樓



FINANCIAL SERVICES AND THE
TREASURY BUREAU

24/F, Central Government Offices,
2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar
Hong Kong

傳真號碼 Fax No. : 2147 5237
電話號碼 Tel. No. : 2810 2365
本函檔號 Our Ref. : TsyB C 224/715/1/0 (C) Pt. 1
來函檔號 Your Ref. :

9 January 2020

The Hon CHU Hoi-dick
Room 903, Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central
Hong Kong

Dear Hon CHU,

Re: Allocation Warrants Relating to the Hong Kong Police Force

Thank you for your letter dated 19 December 2019 on matters relating to allocation warrants.

Under Section 14 of the Public Finance Ordinance (PFO), a controlling officer may, in respect of the subhead for which he/she is the controlling officer, authorise by an allocation warrant issued by him/her any other controlling officer to incur expenditure for the former's subhead. The purpose of the expenditure involved in the allocation warrant must fall within the ambit of the payment subhead. For example, Department A which rents private premises as office via the Government Property Agency (GPA) will issue an allocation warrant to the GPA to pay for the rent and related fees. The relevant expenditure will be reflected under Department A's expenditure subhead and does not involve revisions to the estimates.

The power of issuing allocation warrant comes from the PFO instead of the Finance Committee's delegation.

As regards enquiries about the allocation warrants relating to the Security Bureau (SB) and the Hong Kong Police Force, SB has provided the relevant information in the paper at **Annex** for reference.

Yours sincerely,



(Arthur Au)

for Secretary for Financial Services
and the Treasury

c.c. The Hon CHAN Kin-por, GBS, JP
Chairman, Legislative Council Finance Committee

Annex

During the financial years from 2016-17 to 2019-20, the total amounts of money paid and received by the Security Bureau (SB) and the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) by way of allocation warrants are tabulated below. Items covered by the allocation warrants included payments to the Government Property Agency for office rent and related fees, payments to the Architectural Services Department for covering building maintenance costs, payments to the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department for replacing and procuring vehicles, sums received from the Treasury for compensating employees for work-related injuries, sums received in advance from the Civil Service Bureau for subsidising study programmes, sums received from the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer for setting up administrative computer systems and engaging consultants to conduct feasibility studies and system development, etc. Payments were also made to cover the salaries of police officers seconded to the SB.

It is a common arrangement for government departments to use allocation warrants to incur expenditure for each other. In response to the public order events in recent months, some departments need to strengthen premise security, and have issued allocation warrants to HKPF, incurring expenditure against their own subheads, for the procurement of facilities such as huge water barriers to enhance the security of government premises and public facilities, so as to maintain their daily operations and ensure public services are not affected. These allocation warrants have not been used for the expenses of HKPF's personal emoluments subhead.

Security Bureau

Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20*
Total amount of money paid (\$ million)	133	149	140	91
Total amount of money received (\$ million)	13	16	14	11

* Up to 31 December 2019

Hong Kong Police Force

Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20*
Total amount of money paid (\$ million)	215	223	260	69
Total amount of money received (\$ million)	107	104	83	148

* Up to 31 December 2019

Security Bureau
January 2020