

Appointment of new Chairman to Independent Police Complaints Council

The Government today (May 28) announced the appointment of Ms Priscilla Wong Pui-sze as the Chairman of the Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) for a term of two years with effect from June 1, 2021.

The appointment is made by the Chief Executive according to section 5 of the IPCC Ordinance (Cap. 604).

Ms Wong is a practising barrister with extensive experience in public services. She is currently the Chairperson of the Minimum Wage Commission and a member of various committees. Ms Wong was a member of the IPCC from 2005 to 2010, and assisted in the smooth transition of the IPCC to an independent statutory body in June 2009. Ms Wong will succeed the incumbent IPCC Chairman Dr Anthony Francis Neoh, whose term of appointment will end on May 31.

The Secretary for Security, Mr John Lee, said, "Dr Neoh has been the Chairman of the IPCC since June 2018. Under Dr Neoh's leadership, the IPCC has overcome various challenges and fully performed its statutory functions under the IPCC Ordinance when our society experienced the most difficult time from 2019 to 2020. I am most grateful for the IPCC's enormous amount of work devoted and contributions made to the existing police complaints system. I believe that the IPCC will continue to actively and effectively discharge its independent statutory monitoring functions under the leadership of Ms Wong, the new Chairman, further strengthening the effectiveness of and public confidence in the police complaints system."

Mr Lee said that the Government will continue to give full support to the IPCC in discharging its statutory monitoring functions with a view to ensuring that complaints from the public will be handled fairly and impartially.

The IPCC, established under the IPCC Ordinance, is an independent statutory body responsible for monitoring and reviewing the investigation of complaints against members of the Police Force. The IPCC Ordinance provides a statutory basis for the IPCC's role and power as well as the two-tier police complaints system. It also imposes a statutory duty on the Police to comply with the IPCC's requirements. The IPCC comprises a Chairman, three Vice-chairmen and 20 non-official members.