

LCQ16: Police welfare related funds

Following is a question by the Dr Hon Fernando Cheung and a written reply by the Secretary for Security, Mr John Lee, in the Legislative Council today (November 27):

Question:

Regarding the Police Welfare Fund, the Police Children's Education Trust and the Police Education and Welfare Trust, will the Government inform this Council of the following during the period between June 1 and October 31 this year:

(1) the details of the incomes of the three funds (set out in Tables 1 to 3);

Table 1: Income of the Police Welfare Fund

Income	Amount
(i) General Fund	
Donations	
Government grant	
Hire of police services	
Hire of police holiday facilities	
Interest income from fixed deposits	
Commission on sale of souvenirs by contractor	
Miscellaneous receipts	
Commission from Staff Purchase Scheme contractor	
Exchange gain	
(ii) Police Band Fund	
Hire of Police Band	
Donations	
(iii) Sir Shiu-kin Tang Donation Fund (1985)	
Interest income from fixed deposit	
(iv) Music Bursary Fund	
Sale of compact discs	

Table 2: Income of the Police Children's Education Trust

Income	Amount
Donations	
Interest Income	

Dividend income	
Gain on disposal of investments	
Net exchange gain	

Table 3: Income of the Police Education and Welfare Trust

Income	Amount
Donations	
Interest income	
Dividend income	
Net exchange gain	

(2) the details of the expenditures of the three funds (set out in Tables 4 to 6); and

Table 4: Expenditure of the Police Welfare Fund

Expenditure	Amount
(i) General Fund	
Formation welfare grants	
Grants to Police Tactical Units	
Grants to various councils, associations, etc.	
Recurrent expenses on police holiday facilities	
Grants to police/civilian officers in hardship	
Refreshments for police officers on special duties	
Police sports activities expenses	
Staff relation expenses	
Grants on death of serving police/civilian officers or pensioners	
Summer scholarships for police officers' children	
Healthy Lifestyle Strategy Activities	
Seminars and Resettlement Training Courses	
Grants to junior police officers for further education	
Others	
Exchange loss	

(ii) Police Band Fund	
Distribution of band fees	
Purchase and repair of musical instruments	
Royalties to Composers and Authors Society of Hong Kong Limited	
Laundry expenses for bandsmen engaged in private functions	
Miscellaneous expenses	
Entertainment expenses	
(iii) Sir Shiu-Kin Tang Donation Fund (1985)	
General welfare expenses	
(iv) Music Bursary Fund	
Expenses on training bandsmen	
Miscellaneous expenses	
(v) Further Education Fund	
Further education grants to police officers	

Table 5: Expenditure of the Police Children's Education Trust

Expenditure	Amount
Bursaries	
Treasurer's remuneration	
Sundry expenses	
Net exchange loss	

Table 6: Expenditure of the Police Education and Welfare Trust

Expenditure	Amount
Bursaries	
Treasurer's remuneration	
Sundry expenses	
Net exchange loss	

(3) the details of the donations received by the three funds (set out in tables of the same format as Table 7)?

Table 7

Date of receipt of donations	Name of donors/ donating organisations	Amount of donations	Reasons for donation

Reply:

President,

The Police Welfare Fund was established under the Police Force Ordinance (PFO) (Cap 232) and is administered in accordance with the Police Force (Welfare Fund) Regulation (Cap 232C). According to PFO, the Police Welfare Fund may be used for purposes including but not limited to providing and maintaining amenities for the use and enjoyment of the beneficiaries; compensating police officers, auxiliary officers and civilian officers for extra services provided by them; making loans to beneficiaries; making grants, allowances and gifts to beneficiaries.

The Police Children's Education Trust and the Police Education and Welfare Trust were established and are administered in accordance with the Police Children's Education Trust Ordinance (Cap 1119) and the Police Education and Welfare Trust Ordinance (Cap 1120) respectively. The Police Children's Education Trust shall be applied for the following objects: the provision of assistance in, and facilities for, the higher education of the children of junior police officers and for purposes ancillary thereto; and the provision for any such children who are deserving of opportunities for the furtherance of studies. The Police Education and Welfare Trust shall be applied for the following objects: the provision of assistance in, and facilities for, the general education of the children of police officers of all ranks of the Hong Kong Police Force and of the Hong Kong Auxiliary Police Force; the provision for any such children who are deserving of opportunities for the furtherance of studies; and welfare purposes of general benefit to some or all members of either or both such Forces.

The annual incomes (including donations) and expenditures of the three funds above shall be audited by the Director of Audit in accordance with the relevant legislation, before their statements of accounts are submitted to the Legislative Council (LegCo). The relevant statements of accounts have been uploaded to LegCo's website.

My reply to the questions raised by the Member is as follows:

(1) and (2) As the 2019-20 financial year has not yet ended, and the incomes (including donations) and expenditures of the three funds have yet been audited, we are not able to provide the accounts of the three funds for this financial year. In line with the established practice, the relevant statements of accounts for 2018-19 will be submitted to LegCo in December this year. The accounts of the three funds for 2017-18 with breakdowns requested in the question are tabulated at Annex.

(3) The Police Welfare Fund maintains donation information which members of the public may inspect through the established mechanism put in place by the Police Welfare Fund Management Committee. In this connection, they may approach the secretariat concerned. For the other two funds, there has been no mechanism for public inspection of donation information. Without the consent of the donors, the relevant information would not be disclosed.