



The University of Hong Kong Public Opinion Programme

Independent Police Complaints Council

Independent Police Complaints Council Public Opinion Survey

Dr Robert T. Y. CHUNG Director of Public Opinion Programme, HKU

29 May 2013

Research Background

- Objective:
 - To investigate the public knowledge and perception of IPCC before and after its incorporation
 - To understand the expectation of the public towards IPCC so as to shape a better IPCC
 - To identify the direction of IPCC's publicity initiatives in future
- POP consulted IPCC when designing the questionnaire but POP enjoyed full autonomy in every aspect of the study and takes full responsibility for all findings reported.
- > All survey findings will be <u>open for public consumption</u>.

Contact Information

Date of survey:	March 5 to 12, 2013
-----------------	---------------------

Target population:Hong Kong residents aged 18 or above whospeak Cantonese

Survey method: Telephone survey conducted by telephone interviewers

Sample size: 1,009

Response rate: 68.4%

Standard error:Less than 1.6% (i.e., the maximum sampling error of
all percentages should be no more than +/-3.2
percentage points at 95% confidence level)



Awareness of IPCC



[Q1] Prior to this survey, have you heard of Independent Police Complaints Council, or IPCC? 喺呢個電話訪問前,請問你有方聽過「獨立監察警方處理投訴委員會」,或者簡稱「監警會(IPCC)」呢一 個機構呢?

5

Majority have heard of IPCC via Television



[Q2a] [Only ask those answered "yes" or "DK/HS" in Q1, base=698] From where have you heard of IPCC? Any other channels? (Do not read out answers, multiple choices allowed)請問你係從乜野途徑聽過「監警會」呢?仲有呢? (不讀答案,可選多項) [Q2b] [Only ask those answered "yes" or "DK/HS" in Q1, base=698] Have you ever heard of IPCC from the following channels then? (Read out those channels with * which the respondents have not mentioned in Q2a, multiple answers allowed)咁你有方從下面既途徑聽過「監警會」呢? (請讀出"*"號而被訪者在Q2a沒有提及的途徑,可選多項)

6

Most common source of information: Television News



[Q2a] [Only ask those answered "yes" or "DK/HS" in Q1, base=698] From where have you heard of IPCC? Any other channels? (Do not read out answers, multiple choices allowed)請問你係從乜野途徑聽過「監警會」呢?仲有呢? (不讀答案,可選多項) [Q2b] [Only ask those answered "yes" or "DK/HS" in Q1, base=698] Have you ever heard of IPCC from the following channels then? 7 (Read out those channels with * which the respondents have not mentioned in Q2a, multiple answers allowed)咁你有方從下面既途徑聽 過「監警會」呢? (請讀出"*"號而被訪者在Q2a沒有提及的途徑,可選多項)

Nearly half could correctly mention at least one IPCC duties



60% are aware of IPCC's independent nature



[Q4] [Only ask those answered "yes" or "DK/HS" in Q1, base=698] Do you think IPCC is...? (Read out first two options, order to be randomized by computer, ONE answer only) 你認為「監警會」係... ...完全獨立,唔隸屬於警隊既/屬於警隊既一部份?(讀出首兩項答案,次序由電腦隨機排列,只選一項)

A quarter believe IPCC is the most effective complaint channel against Police, followed by CAPO



(Do not read out options, ONE answer only)

你認為市民投訴警察最有效係經邊個渠道呢? (不讀答案,只選一項)

10

News on Police's abuse of power during protests received the most public attention



[Q6] In the past year, did you hear any news on complaints made to the Hong Kong Police Force? If yes, can you tell me what was it about? (Do not read out options, multiple answers allowed)

係過去一年,你有方聽聞過有關投訴警務人員既新聞?如有,你可唔可以講俾我知係關於乜野?(不讀答案,可選多項)

Respondents showed most interest in following complaints on <u>rape case in police station</u>



One-third cared most on complaints against police officers' abuse of power

On police officers' abuse of power 14% On Police handling public demonstration 13% On corruption of police officers 8% On unfairness of police officers in handling cases 7% On police officers' use of violence 6% On working attitude of police officers 3% On media coverage arrangement 3% On press releases arrangement 2% On stop and search issue / searching 2% On officers' law enforcement of traffic regulations 1% On investigation method of police officers 1% Others 5% Don't care about any complaints against Police Force 4% Don't know / hard to say **Base= 1,008** 0% 5% 10% 15%

[Q8] Which one of the following types of complaints of the Police Force would you care about most? (Read out options, ONE answer only) 就以下各類對警員既投訴黎講,你自己會最關注邊一類投訴?(讀出答案,只選一項)

35%

20%

25%

30%

32%



Corporate Image of IPCC

Description of IPCC

"IPCC is an independent organization from the Hong Kong Police Force, members to be appointed by the Chief Executive. It is an important part of the "two-tier" complaints system of the Hong Kong Police Force, specifying in monitoring and reviewing public complaints made to the police force via the CAPO. Although public complaints made to the police force are processed through the CAPO, results must be passed by the IPCC in order to make sure the investigation is impartial, objective and transparent."

"「監警會」係一個完全獨立於香港警務處既機構,委員由行政 長官委任,係香港投訴警察制度「兩層架構」既一個主要部份, 專門負責監察同覆檢「投訴警察課」調查市民投訴警察個案既 工作。雖然市民投訴警察都係由警方既投訴警察課調查,但調 查結果必須要得到「監警會」既通過,確保調查係公平、公正 同透徹既。"

Image profile of IPCC



[Q9] Do you think IPCC is independent in monitoring and reviewing public complaints of the Police?

你覺得「監警會」能唔能夠以一個獨立既身份去監察同覆檢市民投訴警察既個案?

[Q10] Do you think IPCC is able to monitor and review CAPO's investigation in an impartial and objective way?

你覺得「監警會」能唔能夠公平公正咁監察同覆檢「投訴警察課」既調查工作呢?

[Q11] Do you think IPCC's complaint monitor and review is efficient or not ?

你覺得「監警會」監察同覆檢投訴個案既效率係點?

[Q12] What do you think of IPCC's level of transparency in complaint monitor and review?

你覺得「監警會」既監察同覆檢投訴個案既透明度係點?

More than half regard IPCC as an independent organization



[Q9] Do you think IPCC is independent in monitoring and reviewing public complaints of the Police? (Read out options, ONE answer only)

你覺得「監警會」能唔能夠以一個獨立既身份去監察同覆檢市民投訴警察既個案?(讀出答案,只選一項)

17

Nearly half believe IPCC is impartial and objective



[Q10] Do you think IPCC is able to monitor and review CAPO's investigation in an impartial and objective way? (Read out options, ONE answer only)

18

你覺得「監警會」能唔能夠公平公正咁監察同覆檢「投訴警察課」既調查工作呢?(讀出答案,只選一項)

Only a quarter regard IPCC's complaint monitor and review as <u>efficient</u>



[Q11] Do you think IPCC's complaint monitor and review is efficient or not? (Read out options, ONE answer only) 你覺得「監警會」監察同覆檢投訴個案既效率係點? (讀出答案,只選一項)

19

Only 1/5 think IPCC's work is of high transparency



[Q12] What do you think of IPCC's level of transparency in complaint monitor and review? (Read out options, ONE answer only)

20

你覺得「監警會」既監察同覆檢投訴個案既透明度係點?(讀出答案,只選一項)

43% expressed confidence in IPCC 11% Very confident 43% 31% Quite confident 32% Half-half 14% **Top 3 reasons:** 19% Not quite confident 1) "It's like self-investigation" (5%)5% Not confident at all 2) The process and results of complaints are not released to 7% public (3%) Don't know / hard to say 3) May take sides with police **Base = 1,009** 5% 10% 15% 20% officers when monitoring or 0% Mean score 3.3 reviewing cases (3%) Base 941

[Q13] Overall speaking, are you confident in IPCC? (Interviewer to probe intensity) 請問你對監警會有方信心?(訪員追問程度)

"It's like self-investigation" is the top reason for no confidence in IPCC

It's like self-investigation The process and results of complaints are not released to public May take sides with police officers when monitoring or reviewing cases Not clear about IPCC's works Committees are appointed, not elected by citizens Both are under the Government 7% No direct investigation, monitor only, no actual authority May cover up the truth to avoid unfavorable impact on Police's 7% image Don't think IPCC investigate or monitor complaints in citizen's 5% perspective 3% Others *items mentioned by less 5% Don't know / hard to say than 5% are not shown



Base = 192

[Q14] [Only ask respondents who have answered "Not quite confident" and "Not confident at all" in Q 13] Why do you think it is "22 "Not quite confident"/ "Not confident at all"? Any more? (Do not read out options, multiple answers allowed) 點解你對監警會方信心呢?仲有呢? (不讀答案,可選多項)



The "Two-Tier" Police Complaints System

Nearly 45% are <u>confident</u> in the <u>two-tier complaints system</u>



[Q15] Are you confident in the existing two-tier system of complaints against the Police? (Interviewer to probe intensity) 請問你對現時兩層架構既投訴警察有方信心?(訪員追問程度)

More than 1/3 of non-confident respondents suggest IPCC to increase transparency



[Q16] [Only ask respondents who have answered "Not quite confident" and "Not confident at all" in Q15] How do you think IPCC could improve this two-tier complaints system? (Do not read out options, multiple answers allowed)

你認為監警會可以點樣改善呢個兩層架構既投訴制度?(不讀答案,可選多項)



Overall Perception of IPCC

Majority perceive IPCC's image positively



[Q17] Overall speaking, do you think IPCC's image is? (Read out options, ONE answer only) 整體黎講,你覺得「監警會」既形象係? (讀出答案,只選一項)

Independence, structure and fairness form the pillars of IPCC's positive image

IPCC is independent enough

IPCC's structure gives people confidence

IPCC is fair enough

IPCC members have sufficient and professional knowledge to monitor and review IPCC provides a helpful monitoring system/mechanism

IPCC has high transparency

IPCC has sufficient authorization to fulfill its duties

IPCC's image/name is positive

IPCC is appointed by the Government

Other positive answers

Don't know / hard to say





15%

20%

25%

Base = 578

[Q18a] [Only ask respondents who have answered "Positive" and "Quite positive" in Q17] Why do you think it is "Positive" or "Quite positive"? Any more? (Do not read out options, multiple answers allowed)點解你覺得[讀出Q17的答案]呢?仲有呢? (不讀答案,可選多項)

0%

5%

10%

IPCC's negative image is mainly associated with its low transparency and no trust in its independence



[Q18b] [Only ask respondents who have answered "Negative" and "Quite negative" in Q17] Why do you think it is "Negative" and "Quite negative"? Any more? (Do not read out options, multiple answers allowed)點解你覺得[讀出Q17的答案]呢?仲有呢? (不讀答案,可選多項)

One-fifth express high hope on IPCC's <u>effective</u> monitoring of HK Police Force's work

Hope IPCC can monitor HK Pe	olice Force's work effectively			19%
_	e cases in a fair, impartial and rent mannar			17%
Hope IPCC would improve its transparency			11%	
Hope IPCC can explain more to c system of HK F	-		8%	
Hope IPCC can improve Police-community relation / enhance its communication			7%	
Hope IPCC can provide a channel for complaints against police			7%	
Hope IPCC can ensure citizens will get appropriate Police services			6%	
Hope IPCC can pressure HK police effectively in order to improve their works			6%	
Hope IPCC can become an independent organization / handle cases independently			4%	
Hope IPCC will keep up with its good works			4%	
	Others		2%	
*items mentioned by less than 1% are not shown	No expectation		5%	
	Don't know / hard to say		J	17%
Base = 1,001		-¥- 0%	5% 10% 15%	20%
[Q19] Lastly, what are your expecta 最後,整體而言你對「監警會」	-		not read out options, multiple answers allowed)	



Concluding Remarks

Concluding Remarks

- Almost 70% have heard of IPCC, close to half could name at least one IPCC duties correctly.
- "Monitoring CAPO's cases handling process" is IPCC's most visible function, but almost 40% mistakenly thought "monitoring Police's behavior/conduct" is one of IPCC's duties.
- 60% of those heard of IPCC are aware that it is a totally independent organization, but 35% think it is part of the Police Force.
- Overall, more than 40% are confident in IPCC, which has a positive image in terms of "independency", "impartial and objective", but less positive in "efficiency" and "transparency".

Concluding Remarks

- Almost 45% are confident in the two-tier police complaints system. One-quarter believes IPCC is the most effective complaint channel against Police, one-fifth chooses CAPO.
- 60% who have heard of IPCC know it is independent from the Police Force, but 35% think it is part of it. (repeated observation)
- News on Police's abuse of power during protests received the most public attention, one-third cared most on complaints against police officers' abuse of power.
- The changing socio-political environment has posted new challenges to both the Police Force and IPCC.



End of Presentation Thank you!



Appendix: Respondents Demographics



Base = 1,009



Education level



-

-

-

Occupation



Monthly Personal Income



Monthly Household Income



Residential District

