

## *Press Release*

### **IPCC announces membership of International Expert Panel**

(Hong Kong – September 4, 2019) Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) is pleased to announce membership of the International Expert Panel (IEP) that will provide international experience and advice for the IPCC’s Thematic Study on Police practices and procedures arising from recent public order events.

The IEP comprises five members and will be headed by Sir Denis O’Connor, CBE, QPM, who served as Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Constabulary in 2008-2012 and has been an Affiliated Lecturer at the Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom (UK) since 2012, when he was appointed to the Institute’s Radzinowicz Fellowship. At Cambridge he teaches in a graduate course for police leaders from around the world, including Hong Kong. Four other members of the IEP include Judge Colin Doherty, Chair of Independent Police Conduct Authority (IPCA), New Zealand; The Hon Michael F Adams QC, Chief Commissioner of Law Enforcement Conduct Commission (LECC), Australia; Prof Clifford Stott, Dean for Research Faculty of Natural Sciences, Keele University, UK; as well as Mr Gerry McNeilly, former President of Canadian Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (CACOLE) (*Please refer to Annex for biographies of IEP Members*).

Sir Denis, Chairman of the IEP, had faced a tumultuous period of major public protests and the 2011 riots in eight major cities in the UK during his tenure as Chief Inspector of Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary from 2008 to 2012. He also authored many reports which have become acknowledged international classics in public order policing. The most notable of which are “Adapting to Protest” which dealt with the G20 protests in the UK and “The rules of engagement – A review of the August 2011 disorders”.

Dr Anthony Neoh, QC, SC, JP, Chairman of IPCC, said: “IPCC is very grateful for the ardent support from the IEP members. Their valuable experience and expert knowledge will contribute to the objectivity and impartiality of the Thematic Study. In particular, I am very thankful to Sir Denis who has accepted the IEP Chairmanship. When I first spoke to him in the UK in late July and up to now, he has asked countless

insightful questions about the events in Hong Kong, policing doctrines and issues, which showed his immense experience in the subject of public order policing.”

Dr Neoh further stated that: “IPCC is extremely fortunate in having these five international experts to provide advice at its time of need. This week we are pleased to have Sir Denis O’Connor and Mr Gerry McNeilly visiting Hong Kong to meet with the Task Force Steering Group and the IPCC Council on the latest development and views on the Thematic Study. They have also met with the Commissioner of Police and frontline police officers with respect to the Thematic Study and policing work in Hong Kong. I am delighted to meet Sir Denis and Gerry again after my first discussion with them in the UK and the IPCC Symposium 2019 held in June respectively.”

Sir Denis, in accepting the appointment as IEP Chairman, remarked: “I am honored to take part in this important and challenging task. I shall make every effort to share with IPCC my knowledge, and to consider emerging international research and practice in leading the panel in reviewing and analysing the recent events in the city from diverse angles and perspectives.”

The IEP will participate in the second and third part of the Thematic Study, namely Assessment and Recommendations, after taking into account of facts reconstructed by the Task Force. IPCC continues to appeal to the public to provide information about the current public order events via the following channels to assist the Council in reconstructing and clarifying facts as soon as practicable:

Hotline: 2862 8200

E-mail: [taskforce@ipcc.gov.hk](mailto:taskforce@ipcc.gov.hk)

Form: [https://www.ipcc.gov.hk/doc/en/download/IPCC\\_Form.pdf](https://www.ipcc.gov.hk/doc/en/download/IPCC_Form.pdf)

WhatsApp: 9871 9840

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## **Biography of the International Expert Panel**

### **Sir Denis O'Connor**

- Chief Inspector, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) (2008 – 2012)
- 2012 Radzinowicz Fellow and Affiliated Lecturer at the Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge, UK (2013 – present) teaches graduate course for police leaders from around the world (including Hong Kong)
- Chief Constable of Surrey (2000 – 2004)
- HMIC published “Adapting to Protest” (2009), “Adapting to Protest – Nurturing the British Model of Policing” (2009) and “The rules of engagement – A review of the August 2011 disorders” (2011)
- Contributed to the Scarman Inquiry (1981), the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry (1999), and the Leveson Inquiry (2012)

### **Judge Colin Doherty**

- Chair of Independent Police Conduct Authority (IPCA), New Zealand (2017 – present)
- District Court Judge of New Zealand

### **The Hon Michael F. Adams QC**

- Chief Commissioner of the Law Enforcement Conduct Commission (LECC), New South Wales (2017 – present)
- Justice of the Supreme Court of New South Wales (1998 – 2017)
- LECC published a total of 9 reports in 2018 and 2019 on investigation into police operations in different cities

### **Professor Clifford Stott**

- Dean for Research, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Keele University, UK
- Specialised areas include dynamics of crowd behaviour, riots, public order policing
- Co-author of “Crowd action as intergroup process: introducing the police perspective” (1998) and “The role of crowd theory in determining the use of force in public order policing” (2009)

### **Mr Gerry McNeilly**

- Barrister and Solicitor
- Independent Police Review Director (IPRD), Ontario, Canada (2008 – 2019)
- President of Canadian Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (CACOLE) (2018 – 2019)
- Office of IPRD published “Policing the Right to Protest: G20 Systemic Review Report” (2012)