



## **Information Paper on Self-financing Post-secondary Education Legislative Council's Panel on Education meeting on 18 March 2014**

### **Background**

The Hong Kong Institute of Education submitted an information paper to the special meeting of the Legislative Council's Panel on Education held on 11 January 2013 [LC Paper No. CB(4)299/12-13(07)], setting out the Institute's strategic direction of gradually phasing out its self-financing sub-degree programmes.

### **Phasing Out Timetable**

It has been decided that the four remaining self-financing sub-degree programmes\* currently offered by the Unit of Associate Degree Studies under the Institute's Faculty of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences will have been phased out by 2016/17 after the completion of these programmes at different stages and fulfillment of the existing commitments and contractual obligations. During the transitional period, the quality assurance system for all these programmes shall remain unchanged, either under the Institute's self-accrediting status or under the validation of Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications and/or relevant statutory bodies as appropriate.

### **Governance and Regulation**

With regard to the governance and regulation of the self-financing postsecondary sector, the Institute supports the Heads of Universities Committee (HUCOM)'s ongoing discussions with the Education Bureau and the University Grants Committee (UGC) through a tripartite work group regarding the establishment of an external audit body for the sub-degree operation of all UGC-funded institutions without compromising their self-accrediting status and academic autonomy.

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