



## **Information Paper on Self-financing Post-secondary Education Legislative Council's Panel on Education meeting on 7 Feb 2015**

### **Background**

The Hong Kong Institute of Education submitted an information paper to the Legislative Council's Panel on Education held on 18 March 2014 [LC Paper No. CB(4)469/13-14(15)], informing (i) the Institute's plan of phasing out its self-financing sub-degree programmes, and (ii) the Institute's support to the Heads of Universities Committee'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. This paper seeks to provide an update on the latest development of the aforesaid issues.

### **Updated Phasing Out Timetable**

With the last admission of the two 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 in 2015/16, all self-financing sub-degree programmes of the Institute will be phased out by 2017/18 after the completion of these programmes.

### **Quality Assurance**

The Institute has built in strong, robust and sustainable quality assurance and quality enhancement mechanisms to assure the quality of the Institute's programmes. These mechanisms cover programme planning and development, review by external examiners, two-stage periodic programme review, etc. These mechanisms apply both to UGC-funded and self-funded programmes. The quality assurance system for the self-financing sub-degree programmes, 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 shall remain unchanged.

\* *Associate of Applied Science (Sports Coaching and Management) and Associate of Education (Liberal Studies)*