

## **LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BRIEF**

### **APPROVAL FOR CARITAS INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TUNG WAH COLLEGE TO AWARD DEGREES**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

At the meeting of the Executive Council on 30 July 2013, the Council ADVISED and the Chief Executive ORDERED that approval be granted to –

- (a) Caritas Institute of Higher Education (CIHE) to award degree for the proposed Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) and Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Language and Liberal Studies programmes; and
- (b) Tung Wah College (TWC) to award degree for the proposed Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Occupational Therapy programme.

#### **JUSTIFICATION**

##### **Accreditation of Programmes**

2. Established by Caritas-Hong Kong in 1985, Caritas Francis Hsu College (CFHC) was registered under the Post Secondary Colleges Ordinance (Cap. 320) (the Ordinance) in 2001. In May 2011, the Chief Executive in Council approved CFHC to change its English name to “Caritas Institute of Higher Education”. In June 2013, CIHE obtained accreditation from the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ) for the proposed Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) and Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Language and Liberal Studies programmes.

3. TWC is a post-secondary college established by the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals and registered under the Ordinance in 2011. In June 2013, TWC obtained HKCAAVQ's accreditation of the proposed Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Occupational Therapy programme.

### **Award of Degrees**

4. Section 10(a) of the Ordinance provides that a post secondary college may, with the prior approval of the Chief Executive in Council, award degrees. CIHE and TWC intend to introduce the aforementioned bachelor's degree programmes in the 2013/14 academic year.

### **IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSAL**

5. The proposal is in conformity with the Basic Law, including the provisions concerning human rights. It has no significant economic implication, and no financial and civil service, productivity, sustainability, environmental or family implications.

### **PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

6. Public consultation is unnecessary as the proposal involves no policy change.

### **PUBLICITY**

7. A spokesman will be available for answering public enquiries.

### **ENQUIRIES**

8. In case of enquiries, please contact Ms Pecvin Yong, Principal Assistant Secretary for Education, at 3509 8502.

Education Bureau  
31 July 2013