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## **LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BRIEF**

# APPROVAL FOR HONG KONG SHUE YAN UNIVERSITY TO AWARD DEGREES

#### INTRODUCTION

At the meeting of the Executive Council on 3 February 2015, the Council ADVISED and the Chief Executive ORDERED that approval should be granted to Hong Kong Shue Yan University (HKSYU) to award degree for two programmes –

- (a) Master of Social Sciences in Psychology; and
- (b) Doctor of Psychology in Counselling Psychology.

## JUSTIFICATIONS

## Hong Kong Shue Yan University

2. The Hong Kong Shue Yan College was established in 1971 as a private post secondary college and registered under the Post Secondary Colleges Ordinance (Cap. 320) (the Ordinance) in 1976. It began offering degree programmes in 2001, and the Chief Executive in Council approved its re-titling as the "Hong Kong Shue Yan University" in December 2006. In the 2014/15 academic year, HKSYU offers 17 locally-accredited self-financing post secondary programmes, including 12 undergraduate programmes, four master's degree programmes and one postgraduate diploma programme with around 5 300 students in total.

3. In December 2014, HKSYU obtained accreditation from the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications for the proposed Master of Social Sciences in Psychology and Doctor of Psychology in Counselling Psychology.

### 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. HKSYU intends to introduce the proposed master's and doctoral programmes in January 2016 and September 2015 respectively.

# 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 and sustainability implications, and no financial and civil service, productivity, 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 February 2015