

Task Force on Review of Self-financing Post-secondary Education submits review report to EDB

The Task Force on Review of Self-financing Post-secondary Education submitted its review report to the Education Bureau today (December 27).

The Chairman of the Task Force, Professor Anthony Cheung said, "Over the past year or so, the Task Force has looked into issues pertinent to the development of the self-financing post-secondary education sector including the role of the sector, the regulatory regime and support for the sector, and the future of sub-degree education. The Task Force has made reference to the practices in other economies and considered the views of stakeholders and members of the public collected through a two-month public consultation launched in end June 2018."

He added that the review report is themed "Parallel Development, Promoting Diversity" and it re-affirms the Government policy of supporting the parallel development of the publicly funded and self-financing post-secondary education sectors, as the policy is conducive to encouraging the growth and diversity of higher education in Hong Kong.

The Task Force has made a total of 13 recommendations in its report, including the need to set a clear policy on the development of self-financing post-secondary education; more sharply differentiating the positioning of associate degree and higher diploma qualifications; strengthening support for self-financing post-secondary institutions and students; and forging a reformed and unified regulatory framework. A list of the recommendations is at the Appendix.

Having received the review report, the Secretary for Education, Mr Kevin Yeung said, "I would like to thank the Chairman, Professor Anthony Cheung, and all of the members of the Task Force deeply for their hard work and contribution to the review. Since its appointment in October 2017, the Task Force has engaged relevant stakeholders widely in conducting a thorough review of various key issues pertaining to the future development of self-financing post-secondary education sector.

"The Task Force has set a clear direction for the development and positioning of the self-financing sector. The review has suitably incorporated key stakeholders' views as well as drawn reference to practices outside Hong Kong. The Education Bureau will study the review report and consider its recommendations in detail for mapping out the way forward."

The full review report can be viewed on the EDB's website (www.edb.gov.hk/en/edu-system/postsecondary/policy-doc).