

Family Council

Further Study on the Phenomenon of Divorce in Hong Kong

PURPOSE

This paper provides background information to facilitate Members' discussion on the presentation to be made by the Research Team of The University of Hong Kong (the Research Team) on the Further Study on the Phenomenon of Divorce in Hong Kong (the Study).

BACKGROUND

2. With a view to finding out more about the demographic and socioeconomic landscape of divorce situation in Hong Kong, the Family Council (the Council) commissioned the Research Team to conduct the Study in June 2018. Having regard to the scale and complexity of the Study, a Working Group (WG) was formed to oversee the Study and provide comments on the deliverables submitted by the Research Team.

3. The Study was originally scheduled to be completed by end 2019. Given the complexity of the Study and the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, more time was required to collect the outstanding statistical information for analysis and prepare the Final Report of the Study by the Research Team. Upon receipt of the initial draft of the Final Report, the Council Secretariat consulted relevant government bureaux/departments (B/Ds) and shared the comments and questions raised by relevant B/Ds with the Research Team. After several rounds of revisions, the Research Team submitted a revised draft Final Report in June 2022.

4. To take the matter forward, a WG meeting was convened in October 2022 to deliberate on the revised draft Final Report. Taking into account the comments given by the WG Members as well as those of relevant B/Ds, the Research Team submitted the revised Final Report on 24 November 2022.

ADVICE SOUGHT

5. Members are invited to note the background information of the Study and provide comments on the presentation by the Research Team. Subject to Members' comments, the Study will be completed and the Final Report of the Study will be uploaded to the website of the Council for perusal by members of the public in due course.

**Family Council Secretariat
December 2022**