



香港學術及職業資歷評審局
Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of
Academic & Vocational Qualifications

ACCREDITATION REPORT

HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

AND

UNIVERSITY OF WEST LONDON

LEARNING PROGRAMME ACCREDITATION

**BSC (HONS) CRIMINOLOGY WITH FORENSIC
INVESTIGATION**

APRIL 2026

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1. TERMS OF REFERENCE

1.1 Based on the Service Agreement (No.: AA1134), the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ), in the capacity of the Accreditation Authority as provided for under the Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications Ordinance (AAVQO) (Cap. 592), was commissioned by Hong Kong Institute of Technology and University of West London (jointly as the Operator) to conduct a Learning Programme Accreditation exercise with the following Terms of Reference:

- (a) To conduct an accreditation test as provided for in the AAVQO to determine whether the BSc (Hons) Criminology with Forensic Investigation programme of the Operator meets the stated objectives and HKQF standards and can be offered as an accredited programme; and
- (b) To issue to the Operator an accreditation report setting out the results of the determination in relation to (a) by HKCAAVQ.

2. HKCAAVQ'S DETERMINATION

2.1 HKCAAVQ has determined that, subject to the fulfilment of the conditions set out below, the BSc (Hons) Criminology with Forensic Investigation programme (the Programme) meets the stated objectives and HKQF standard at Level 5, and can be offered as an accredited programme with a validity period of three years.

2.2 Validity Period

2.2.1 The validity period will, provided the Operator fulfils all pre-conditions to the commencement of the validity period as set out in 2.4.1, commence on the date specified below. Operators may apply to HKCAAVQ to vary the commencement date of the validity period. Applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

2.2.2 The maintenance of the accreditation status within the specified validity period is subject to the fulfilment of all requirements set out in 2.4.2 by the specified deadline.

2.3 The determinations on the Programme are specified as follows:

Name of Local Operator	Hong Kong Institute of Technology 香港科技專上書院
Name of Non-local Operator	University of West London 西倫敦大學
Name of Award Granting Body	University of West London 西倫敦大學
Title of Learning Programme	BSc (Hons) Criminology with Forensic Investigation 犯罪學及鑑證調查 (榮譽) 理學士學位
Title of Qualification(s) [Exit Award(s)]	BSc (Hons) Criminology with Forensic Investigation 犯罪學及鑑證調查 (榮譽) 理學士學位
Primary Area of Study and Training	Social Sciences
Sub-area (Primary Area of Study and Training)	Security and Disciplinary Forces Studies
Other Area of Study and Training	Not applicable
Sub-area (Other Area of Study and Training)	Not applicable
HKQF Level	Level 5
HKQF Credits	360
Mode(s) of Delivery and Programme Length	Full-time, 3 year Part-time, 4 years
Start Date of Validity Period	1 September 2026
End Date of Validity Period	31 August 2029
Number of Enrolment(s)	Two enrolments per academic year
Maximum Number of New Students	<i>(To be confirmed upon the fulfilment of the pre-conditions. Only Year 3 entry will be admitted; see Para. 4.2.2 for details.)</i>
Address of Teaching / Training Venue(s)	No. 213 Nam Cheong Street, Sham Shui Po, Kowloon

2.4 Conditions

2.4.1 Pre-conditions

2.4.1.1 The Operator is to review and enhance its admission mechanisms and processes, and related systems

- (a) to ensure that the updated admission requirements, including the English Proficiency Requirement, and information on the full-time and part-time mode of study are clearly and formally documented and published for effective communication with potential applicants, students and staff members;
- (b) to put in place robust systems and measures to ensure that the admission selection process and procedures can effectively assess whether an applicant meets the minimum admission requirements, including the English Proficiency Requirement prior to admission/enrolment, and ensure that such procedures should include, and are not limited to, verification of the authenticity of academic credentials and testimonial or certification documents indicating the Medium of Instruction (MoI) of the entry qualifications that were taught and assessed in English or not;
- (c) to establish a formal process, procedures and formal documentation for handling an applicant's application for change of mode of study, particularly maintaining formal records of the process and communication undertaken and the number of cases of application handled and the outcomes; and to ensure that the respective intake quota remains within the maximum approved intake quota specified per year during the validity period;
- (d) to review the maximum number of new students per academic year, including the full-time and part-time intake quota, taking into consideration factors such as full-time and part-time modes of study, study loading and student demand, with a view to ensuring that the academic standards, learning and teaching, learning outcomes, and quality assurance remain effective;
- (e) to enhance and further develop the enrolment monitoring policy and the related management systems which set out clear mechanisms and processes for effective prevention of over-enrolment and adherence to the maximum approved

student intake quota specified per academic year, and to ensure that the enrolment monitoring and related systems should clearly indicate the responsible officer for ultimate and effective control of enrolment level, regular and timely monitoring and reporting on the intake number for each mode of study and entry route throughout the validity period, and that the system should consist of reporting mechanisms, including inter-alia regular reporting to the Operator's governing body and the HKCAAVQ of whether or not the enrolment records comply with the maximum intake quota approved by the HKCAAVQ.

The Operator is to submit relevant information and evidence to HKCAAVQ for the fulfilment of the pre-condition above **on or before 30 April 2026**. (Para. 4.2.11)

2.4.1.2 The Operator is to further develop and formalise the arrangement for promulgating information and selection guidelines on the optional modules to be offered in each semester in relevant formal channels/documents such as Student Orientation, Course Handbook and programme websites, before commencement of the Programme, and to ensure that there should be a minimum of two optional modules for students to choose in each semester, notwithstanding that only one optional module would be offered in the event that the other optional module cannot meet the specified subscription threshold.

The Operator is to:

- (a) keep a complete, formal and written record of the process with which the teaching staff advise students on the optional modules that would be offered so as to help individual student make his/her own choices, and
- (b) establish an optional module selection system to record and manage individual student's choices to ensure that students can exercise their choices for optional modules according to individual interest and preferences.

The Operator is to submit relevant information and evidence to HKCAAVQ for the fulfilment of the pre-condition above **on or before 30 April 2026**. (Para. 4.3.3)

2.4.1.3 The Operator is to provide:

- (a) the final version of the total contact hours, non-contact hours and notional learning hours for each of all modules of this top-up degree, with clear indication of the contact hours and non-contact hours for teaching, tutorial sessions, guided independent study and independent study etc., with evidence demonstrating that the conversion of all guided independent study hours into tutorial contact hours for all the modules has duly followed the programme change, review and approval process of both HKIT and UWL, and
- (b) the approval documents of relevant UWL committees/approving authority with signatures and dates of the sign-off as required in UWL's quality assurance mechanism and process for endorsement of the above changes made to the module specification documents.

The Operator is to submit relevant information and evidence to HKCAAVQ for the fulfilment of the pre-condition above **on or before 30 April 2026**. (Para. 4.4.6)

2.4.1.4 The Operator is to submit written confirmation of Registration for this updated Programme as evidence of successful registration under the Non-local Higher and Professional Education (Regulation) Ordinance (Cap. 493) to HKCAAVQ **on or before 30 April 2026**. (Para. 4.7.4)

2.4.2 Requirements

2.4.2.1 The Operator is to provide evidence on (a) the effectiveness of and compliance with the prevailing admission policy, mechanisms, and measures on the admission of students and the approved maximum numbers of new students per academic year for each entry route and mode of study, and (b) the implementation and effectiveness of an enrolment monitoring and management system, with the information such as clear line responsibility for controlling enrolment figures within the approved maximum intake number and reporting mechanism to ensure the Operator's accountability and prevention of any non-compliance such as over-enrolment.

For the fulfilment of the requirement, the Operator is to provide, **within one month after every enrolment of each academic year during the validity period**, the above-mentioned evidence, the

profile of all students admitted to the Programme and relevant admission statistics as well as evidence on the effective implementation of the enrolment monitoring and management systems and measures as stated in Pre-condition 1. (Para. 4.2.12)

- 2.4.2.2 The Operator is to provide the records and relevant documents regarding students' selection of optional modules for each semester, with the number of votes identified for each optional module, and to demonstrate clearly that the offering of a particular optional module in every semester is based on the result of student's individual choices.

The Operator is to submit relevant information and evidence to HKCAAVQ in fulfilment of the above requirement **within one month after the start of each semester.** (Para. 4.3.4)

2.5 Recommendations

HKCAAVQ also offers the following recommendations for continuous improvement of the Programme.

- 2.5.1 The Operator should review regularly the content of modules and consider including further contextualisation in the modules using local examples/context as and when appropriate. (Para. 4.4.2)
- 2.5.2 The Operator should increase the minimum number of face-to-face consultation hours for each student to ensure that each student receives high-quality supervision and sufficient dedicated time for guidance and advising on their dissertation. (Para. 4.4.4)
- 2.5.3 The Operator should review the number and ratio of full-time and part-time teaching staff to ensure that the balance between full-time and part-time teaching staff is appropriate for the number of students enrolled in the Programme. (Para. 4.5.4)
- 2.5.4 The Operator should regularly review and update as appropriate the currency of the equipment, relevant learning and teaching facilities to better support the learning and teaching of the Programme. (Para. 4.6.2)
- 2.5.5 In processing any programme changes, the Operator should duly follow the established mechanism, process and procedures on programme review, development and quality assurance to ensure

maintenance of academic standards and quality of the Programme.
(Para. 4.7.2)

- 2.5.6 The Operator should review the policy relating to external examiners and external advisors, in particular, establishing a maximum period for the appointments of external examiners and external advisors, in order to ensure sufficiency and diversity of input, objectivity and independence of their role in programme scrutiny. (Para. 4.7.3)

- 2.6 HKCAAVQ will subsequently satisfy itself on whether the Operator remains competent to achieve the relevant objectives and the Programme continues to meet the standard to achieve the relevant objectives as claimed by the Operator by reference to, amongst other things, the Operator's fulfilment of any conditions and compliance with any restrictions stipulated in this Accreditation Report. For the avoidance of doubt, maintenance of accreditation status is subject to the fulfilment of any condition and compliance with any restriction stipulated in this Accreditation Report. During the validity period, HKCAAVQ may request the Operator to provide evidence, such as admission related information, to demonstrate that the Operator and the Programme continue to comply with the determinations and meet the relevant accreditation standards.

3. INTRODUCTION

- 3.1 Hong Kong Institute of Technology (HKIT), formerly named as the College of Info-Tech before 2003, was set up by a non-profit making organisation "International Education and Academic Exchanges Foundation Company Limited (IEAEF)" formed by Media Education Info-Tech. HKIT is the business name of IEAEF.

- 3.2 University of West London (UWL) is a Higher Education Corporation with both taught and research degree awarding powers granted by the Privy Council of the United Kingdom (UK) on 26 April 1993 as Thames Valley University. It changed its name to the University of West London by an instrument of modification of the same Privy Council on 10 August 2010. Under the Further and Higher Education Act 1992, UWL has the authority to authorise a partner institution to deliver the whole or part of a programme of study leading to an award of the University.

- 3.3 HKIT and UWL, jointly as the Operator, commissioned HKCAAVQ to conduct a Learning Programme Accreditation exercise for the Programme. HKCAAVQ formed an expert panel (the Panel) for this exercise (Panel Membership at **Appendix**), and an accreditation meeting was conducted between the Panel and the Operator on 9 January 2026. In conducting this exercise, HKCAAVQ's *Manual for the Four-stage Quality Assurance Process under HKQF (Version 1.3, April 2025)* was the guiding document for the Operator and the Panel.

4. PANEL'S DELIBERATIONS

The following presents the Panel's deliberations on a range of issues pertinent to its major findings. For aspects of the accreditation standards where no observations are made they are considered to be appropriately addressed by the Operator.

4.1 Programme Objectives and Learning Outcomes

The learning programme must have objectives that address community, education and/or industry needs, with learning outcomes that meet the relevant HKQF standards, for all exit qualifications from the programme.

- 4.1.1 The Programme is a non-local programme awarded by UWL, and is hosted by the School of Human and Social Sciences of UWL and the Faculty of Science and Technology of HKIT. The Programme is jointly delivered by UWL and HKIT in Hong Kong, and mirrors the programme aims, intended learning outcomes and curriculum of the corresponding home programme currently delivered in the UK. The Panel noted that this Programme was revised on the basis of the predecessor programme entitled BA (Hons) Criminology, Policing and Forensic Investigation (BACPFI). The revamped programme has been retitled to BSc (Hons) Criminology with Forensic Investigation (BScCFI), which entailed changes to the programme title and award title. The Operator proposed to offer the revised programme with effect from 1 September 2026.
- 4.1.2 This revamped Programme also includes changes to the Programme Aims (PAs) and Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (PILOs) which are included below. The revamped curriculum outline of the Programme is described in Section 4.3.

The BScCFI Programme Aims (PAs) are to:

- (a) Offer an innovative and research-informed curriculum, creating an intellectually stimulating environment for students' personal and intellectual development, and preparing them for diverse careers through the application of professional practice and real-world skills
- (b) Equip students with the ability to locate, organise and synthesise information from diverse sources, including primary and secondary materials.
- (c) Develop critical analysis and evaluation skills to effectively marshal evidence for reasoned arguments and to address complex issues within the field of criminology.
- (d) Provide rigorous training in quantitative and qualitative research methods, fostering engagement in the research process through individual and group projects.
- (e) Allow students to pursue specific areas of interest or specialization within criminology, including options for work- or community-based learning.
- (f) Cultivate independence and active learning, facilitating the acquisition of lifelong learning skills for personal, academic, and career development.
- (g) Foster exploration of key issues surrounding the causes and effects of crime, the functioning of the criminal justice, promoting knowledge, confidence, and effective communication skills.

Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (PILOs)

Upon completion of the programme, students will attain the following sets of learning outcomes for this Programme:

- (a) Critically appraise key concepts and theoretical approaches involved in criminal justice
- (b) Critically appraise the role, actions and impact of criminal justice agencies, including those with investigative and forensic roles
- (c) Explain contemporary demands and responses to criminal justice and forensic investigation
- (d) Critically interpret theory and research in relation to criminal justice
- (e) Critically evaluate a range of approaches to crime, policing and forensic investigation
- (f) Design research appropriately in relation to a specific problem, and gather, retrieve and synthesise information, including comparative data
- (g) Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of how to

	evaluate research data including both quantitative and qualitative data
(h)	Systematically review and evaluate criminological evidence
(i)	Critically appraise the nature of criminological questions and investigate them
(j)	Critically analyse, assess methodologically and communicate information and empirical research findings about crime, victimisation and responses to crime and deviance
(k)	Identify a range of different strategies and methods and use appropriate research tools in relation to criminological problems, including quantitative, qualitative and evaluative techniques
(l)	Identify the ethical issues and the range of ethical problems in research into criminological and public policy questions and take action within the Guidelines of Ethical Practice
(m)	Demonstrate an advanced ability to effectively communicate in a variety of settings and situations
(n)	Demonstrate an advanced ability to identify, retrieve and make use sources of information
(o)	Make effective and appropriate use of communications and ICT skills for research and communication at this level
(p)	Act as an effective independent learner and make decisions based upon evidence
(q)	Apply skills of critical reflection and critical analysis of the literature

4.1.3 To demonstrate that the intended learning outcomes of the Programme meet the HKQF standard at Level 5, the Operator provided the Panel with the following information of the revised Programme:

- (a) delineation of the PAs, PILOs and corresponding levels of modules;
- (b) mapping of the PILOs and Generic Level Descriptors (GLDs) at HKQF Level 5;
- (c) mapping of the modules and GLDs;
- (d) programme specification and module specifications; and
- (e) samples of learning and teaching materials and assessments.

4.1.4 From the accreditation documents and the discussions with the internal and external stakeholders of the Programme at the accreditation meeting, the Panel was given to understand that the Programme aims to address the community, education and industry needs, and prepare students for further education and employment

opportunities. The Panel also noted that the external stakeholders including potential employers expressed support for the Programme.

- 4.1.5 After reviewing the above information, the Panel held the view that the PAs and PILOs of the Programme are pitched at HKQF Level 5, and the Programme would help to address the market need.

4.2 Learner Admission and Selection

The minimum admission requirements of the learning programme must be clearly outlined for staff and prospective learners. These requirements and the learner selection processes must be effective for recruitment of learners with the necessary skills and knowledge to undertake the programme.

- 4.2.1 On the admission process, the Operator informed the Panel that all applicants need to go through the admission procedures for admission to the Programme in accordance with the Operator's relevant regulations and processes.
- 4.2.2 As informed by the accreditation documents, the responses provided by the Operator and the clarifications sought at the accreditation meeting with both UWL and HKIT representatives, the Operator confirmed that the minimum admission requirements of the Programme remain the same as its predecessor programme. The Panel noted the minimum entrance requirements for Year-1 and Year-3 entry as below. The Operator confirmed that this revamped Programme is in fact a top-up degree aimed for only Year-3 entrants at this stage. If the Operator would like to make any changes to student admission (e.g. Year-1 entry route) in the future, the Operator shall obtain HKCAAVQ's prior approval before implementing any changes.

4.2.3 Minimum Admission Requirements

Year-1 Entry

- (a) Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE) 15 points in five subjects (Level 1 = 1 point and Level 5** = 7 points) with a minimum of Level 3 in English and Mathematics, and no subjects at Level 1; or
- (b) Qualifications equivalent to the above.

Year-3 Entry

- (a) Associate Degree or Higher Diploma at HKQF Level 4 in a relevant discipline from recognised local educational institutions; or
- (b) Equivalent qualifications.

Remark:

Completion of an adequate number of relevant modules in related areas during the study for the qualification as noted above so that the applicant is eligible to apply for exemption that amounts to the first two years of study of the programme; if the applicants' completed modules do not amount to the exemption of the first two years of study of the programme, applicants must take bridging modules, which are comparable with those in the University of West London's first two years' of modules in terms of curriculum content, level and volume of study before admission to Year 3.

English Proficiency Requirements

Year-1 entry

- (a) HKDSE Level 3 or above in English Language; or
- (b) IELTS (Academic) at 6.0 with no individual skill score below 5.5.

Year-3 entry

- (a) Previous qualifications used to gain admission to the programme was/were taught and assessed in English; or
- (b) IELTS (Academic) at 6.0 with no individual skill score below 5.5.

- 4.2.4 The Operator in its original accreditation document proposed that for a specific group of applicants holding professional diploma qualifications that were taught in Chinese/Cantonese to use the completion of bridging modules to satisfy the English Proficiency Requirements for Year-3 entry to the Programme. The Panel repeatedly pointed out that this proposal was unacceptable and was against the English language proficiency requirements specified by UWL. At the accreditation meeting, both HKIT and UWL representatives agreed to abandon the proposal and adhere strictly to the minimum entrance requirements, including the English Proficiency Requirements, in the admission and selection process.
- 4.2.5 The Panel noted that the Operator stipulated that all applicants for Year-3 entry should pass an interview in English. The Panel emphasised that the interview should not be used to by-pass the English Proficiency Requirements specified above, which is part of the minimum entrance requirements for Year-3 entry. The Panel also opined that there should be clear criteria for assessing the

performance of the interviewees and formal records for the conduct and outcome of such interviews should be maintained as appropriate.

- 4.2.6 In relation to the minimum admission requirements and advanced standing for Year-3 entry to the Programme, apart from the minimum admission requirements, the Panel was also given to understand that students may be granted advanced standing for modules on the basis of prior relevant study of comparable nature, level and study volume based on the UWL's approved mappings of entry qualifications with the Year-1 and Year-2 modules of the Programme, and advanced standing will not exceed two-third of the equivalent credit requirements for the award which is 240 credits of the Year-1 and Year-2 study of the Programme. The final decision for granting advanced standing to students is determined by UWL. The Panel reviewed the Mapping Forms duly completed by UWL signatories which spelt out clearly the module-by-module mappings of the entry qualifications with the Programme and identified the specific bridging courses which students have to complete before they can be admitted for Year-3 study of the Programme. These UWL approved mapping documents also unambiguously stated that if the applicants' entry qualifications were not taught and assessed in English, IELTS results of 6.0 or equivalent are required to fulfil the English Proficiency Requirements for admission to the Programme. The Operator should assess applicants' eligibility by adhering strictly to the minimum entrance requirements, including the English Proficiency Requirements, stipulated for this Programme. As also mentioned in Para. 4.2.4 above, the Operator, both UWL and HKIT, has confirmed at the accreditation meeting that bridging courses cannot be used to fulfil the English language proficiency requirements, and the Operator will adhere to the minimum admission requirements in the implementation of the admission process. The staff of the Operator responsible for the admission process and monitoring must ensure that admission requirements including English language proficiency requirement are strictly followed. In addition, the minimum admission requirements including the English language proficiency requirements, mode of study, duration of the Programme, study load and related information on the Programme must be properly published and clearly communicated to prospective applicants, students and staff.
- 4.2.7 The Panel noted that the Operator's existing practice of checking and vetting applicants' academic qualifications and credentials by viewing the related institutions' websites was not adequate in authenticating the entry qualifications provided by the applicants.

The Operator (both HKIT and UWL) should carry out more independent and proactive measures for vetting the applicants' credentials. The Panel stressed that the Operator should improve the measures and ways of authenticating academic credentials provided by the applicants during the application process, including obtaining certifications/confirmations from awarding institutions indicating clearly the Medium of Instruction (MoI) of the entry qualification (e.g. whether or not the MoI is English) for admission consideration.

- 4.2.8 Despite repeated non-compliances especially relating to student admission before this accreditation, the Operator proposed to substantially increase the full-time student quota per year of this Programme in this accreditation. At the accreditation meeting, the Panel conveyed its view to the Operator that their revised projection of intake of full-time students represented a significant increase over the approved full-time intake number of the predecessor programme while the projected intake of part-time students was much lower, compared to the approved maximum number of part-time students per year of the predecessor programme. According to the application and admission data, enrolment records, student profile and related information on the predecessor programme provided by the Operator, the Panel noted that the high over-enrolment of full-time students above the approved quota was drawn largely from applicants who held qualifications which were taught not in English but without IELTS 6.0. The Panel's view was that the proposed maximum intake numbers were over ambitious. The Operator's admission information (for example admission data from AY2022/23 to AY2024/25) showed that there were full-time students who were full-time employees who had applied for part-time mode of study in the predecessor programme, demonstrating a clear demand for part-time mode of study from full-time working professionals. In view of the above, the Panel exchanged views in details with the representatives of HKIT and UWL at the accreditation meeting, in addition to written communication and clarifications before the accreditation meeting. Despite the Operator proposed adjusted numbers at the accreditation meeting, the panel considered that the proposed maximum number for full-time student was still too ambitious, while the number for part-time students could be enhanced to reflect the demand for part-time mode. Therefore, parts of a Pre-condition and a Requirement relating to student admission were stipulated in 4.2.11 and 4.2.12.

- 4.2.9 The Operator confirmed that the Programme is a top-up degree at this stage, comprising 120 HKQF credits (1200 student learning hours) in the Year-3 study, which represents a heavy study load if it is to be completed in the full-time mode of study within one year. For full-time working professionals, especially those who have full-time work commitment, operational responsibility requiring shift duties, emergency call-out, etc. reconciling full-time work commitment and full-time study would be very difficult. The part-time mode of study of this Programme should be able to provide a manageable study load that can meet the potential demand for knowledge/qualification enhancement from full-time employees. In the discussion with students and graduates, the Panel found that some of them were full-time employees of the government disciplinary forces but also attending the predecessor programme in full-time mode. The Panel was told that they had informed their supervisors about studying on the Programme but no formal approval was sought. The Panel felt that to safeguard the welfare and well-being of full-time employees, especially staff members of the government disciplinary forces, it would be appropriate for these applicants who wish to pursue full-time mode of study in this Programme to provide documentary proof of employer's approval in support of his/her application.
- 4.2.10 The Panel found that a large number of applicants who initially applied for part-time mode of study were given an offer letter for admission as full-time student and was subsequently enrolled as full-time students in the predecessor programme. The accreditation meeting revealed that information on the Programme regarding full-time and part-time modes of study, the study load for each mode, etc. was not clearly communicated to prospective applicants. The Panel was informed that the Operator explained to these applicants about the full-time mode of study and then these applicants were offered a full-time student place and subsequently enrolled as full-time students. During the accreditation meeting, UWL indicated that admission process is undertaken by the local operator, HKIT. HKIT explained that the applicants are classified as full-time students with reference to the credits they register in a given semester. However, the Panel found this ad-hoc approach to switching between modes of study unsatisfactory as it invariably affected the subsequent enrolment numbers for full-time and part-time students. A Pre-condition is therefore stipulated in 4.2.11.
- 4.2.11 The Panel observed that there had been significant over-enrolment for full-time students for three consecutive years (AY2022/23, AY2023/24, AY2024/25). The Panel expressed serious concerns on the Operator's persistent non-compliance with the HKCAAVQ

approved maximum student numbers. To prevent recurrence of over-enrolment in the future, the Operator was required to review and consolidate its enrolment records/system and related policy to ensure effective management of student admission and compliance with the approved student numbers. The Panel reviewed the Operator's new Enrolment Monitoring Policy and System which set out the overall management approach in monitoring the enrolment situation. The policy however lacked effective measures and implementation details to demonstrate that it can successfully prevent over-enrolment. At the accreditation meeting, the Panel was told that the Registrar, the Programme Leader and the course administrator of HKIT were all involved in the process of monitoring and managing student enrolment. It remains unclear which officer(s) would be held accountable for failure to curb over-enrolment. It was later pointed out that the Registrar of HKIT is vested with the ultimate authority of controlling enrolment figures. UWL affirmed the Panel that they will not allow over-enrolment anymore in the future. The Panel held the view that the Operator should expend stronger effort and more stringent measures to effectively prevent over-enrolment through an enhanced monitoring, reporting, and management system with the identification of the responsible officer with ultimate accountability and to require regular reporting to both the Operator's governing bodies and HKCAAVQ for oversight. The Panel therefore stipulated the following corresponding pre-condition and requirement.

Pre-condition

The Operator is to review and enhance its admission mechanisms and processes, and related systems

- (a) to ensure that the updated admission requirements, including the English Proficiency Requirement, and information on the full-time and part-time mode of study are clearly and formally documented and published for effective communication with potential applicants, students and staff members;
- (b) to put in place robust systems and measures to ensure that the admission selection process and procedures can effectively assess whether an applicant meets the minimum admission requirements, including the English Proficiency Requirement prior to admission/enrolment, and ensure that such procedures should include, and are not limited to, verification of the authenticity of academic credentials and testimonial or certification documents indicating the Medium of Instruction

(Mol) of the entry qualifications that were taught and assessed in English or not;

- (c) to establish a formal process, procedures and formal documentation for handling an applicant's application for change of mode of study, particularly maintaining formal records of the process and communication undertaken and the number of cases of application handled and the outcomes; and to ensure that the respective intake quota remains within the maximum approved intake quota specified per year during the validity period;
- (d) to review the maximum number of new students per academic year, including the full-time and part-time intake quota, taking into consideration factors such as full-time and part-time modes of study, study loading and student demand, with a view to ensuring that the academic standards, learning and teaching, learning outcomes, and quality assurance remain effective;
- (e) to enhance and further develop the enrolment monitoring policy and the related management systems which set out clear mechanisms and processes for effective prevention of over-enrolment and adherence to the maximum approved student intake quota specified per academic year, and to ensure that the enrolment monitoring and related systems should clearly indicate the responsible officer for ultimate and effective control of enrolment level, regular and timely monitoring and reporting on the intake number for each mode of study and entry route throughout the validity period, and that the system should consist of reporting mechanisms, including inter-alia regular reporting to the Operator's governing body and the HKCAAVQ of whether or not the enrolment records comply with the maximum intake quota approved by the HKCAAVQ.

The Operator is to submit relevant information and evidence to HKCAAVQ for the fulfilment of the pre-condition above **on or before 30 April 2026**.

- 4.2.12 The Operator is to enhance the reporting and management structure of the admission process and mechanism and the enrolment system so as to apprise HKCAAVQ in a timely manner of over-enrolment as it arises. The HKCAAVQ may, depending on the extent of the over-enrolment, consider taking appropriate follow-up actions.

Requirement

The Operator is to provide evidence on (a) the effectiveness of and compliance with the prevailing admission policy, mechanisms, and measures on the admission of students and the approved maximum numbers of new students per academic year for each entry route and mode of study, and (b) the implementation and effectiveness of an enrolment monitoring and management system, with the information such as clear line responsibility for controlling enrolment figures within the approved maximum intake number and reporting mechanism to ensure the Operator's accountability and prevention of any non-compliance such as over-enrolment.

For the fulfilment of the requirement, the Operator is to provide, **within one month after every enrolment of each academic year during the validity period**, the above-mentioned evidence, the profile of all students admitted to the Programme and relevant admission statistics as well as evidence on the effective implementation of the enrolment monitoring and management systems and measures as stated in Pre-condition 1.

- 4.2.13 In line with the Government's policy on the yearly quota of non-standard admission for programmes accredited under the Qualifications Framework, for non-local degree programmes operating in the 2023/24 academic year and onwards, the maximum number of non-standard admission (including mature students) should be capped at a maximum of 10% on a programme basis of the actual number of new students of the year. The cap is applied in line with the general expectation on self-financed degree-awarding institutions in safeguarding teaching and learning quality and thereby upholding the credibility and recognition of the qualifications. The percentage is based on the sum of new student numbers across all years of study of the Programme. The Operator had confirmed the above understanding in its response to initial comments and in the accreditation meeting.

4.3 Programme Structure and Content

The structure and content of the learning programme must be up-to-date, coherent, balanced and integrated to facilitate progression in order to enable learners to achieve the stated learning outcomes and to meet the programme objectives.

- 4.3.1 This Programme was a revamp of the former version of the programme. Based on the accreditation documents and further Responses submitted by the Operator, the programme structure and curriculum of the Programme are as follows:

***Programme Structure and Curriculum of the Programme:**

Year 1			
Modules	Core or Elective	Lecture Hours	Credits
Criminological Theory	Core	48	20
Criminal Process and Responsibility	Core	48	20
Principles in Crime Scene Investigation	Core	36	20
Policing Society	Core	48	20
Victims of Crime Safeguarding Society	Core	36	20
Researching Criminal Worlds	Core	36	20
Year 2			
Modules	Core or Elective	Lecture Hours	Credits
Cybercrime and Cyber Security	Core	36	20
Explaining Criminal Behaviour	Core	36	20
Criminal Justice in Practice	Core	42	20
Crime Scene Investigation in Practice	Core	36	20
Global and Environmental Crime	Core	39(36*)	20
Methods and Analysis in Criminological Practice	Core	36	20
Year 3			
Modules	Core or Elective	Lecture Hours	Credits
Criminology Dissertation	Core	44	40
Punishment, Rehabilitation and Offender Management	Core	48	20
Complex Crime Scene Investigation	Core	36	20
Understanding & Preventing Corruption: Theory and Practice	Optional	36	20
Critical Perspectives on Terrorism & Counter- Terrorism	Optional	36	20
Criminal Law and Youth Justice	Optional	36	20
Mental Health, Wellbeing and Resilience in Criminal Justice	Optional	36	20
Law and Courtroom skills: Expert Evidence Testimony	Optional	36	20
Hate Crime	Optional	36(48*)	20
Drugs and Crime in Criminal Justice	Optional	36	20
Total: 17 modules (360 credits)			

** The Operator provided the Panel with updated information on the contact hours and learning hours of modules during the accreditation process.*

However, based on the information provided and the discussions with HKIT and UWL representatives in accreditation meetings, the relevant approval had not been formally completed yet. The information on contact hours and learning hours of the Programme will be finalised, subject to the final approval of UWL and fulfilment of the corresponding pre-condition as stipulated in para.4.4.6.

- 4.3.2 In response to the Panel's query regarding zero projection of student intake for Year-1 entry for the coming four academic years from AY2026/27 to AY2029/30, the Operator confirmed that there was no intention to admit students for Year-1 study, and therefore the Programme should be a top-up degree programme at this stage targeting for recruiting students for Year-3 entry. The Programme in Year-3 delivery therefore consists of 120 HKQF credits comprising one core dissertation module worth of 40 credits which is taught over two semesters, two core modules each of 20 credits, and two optional modules each worth 20 credits, and students should choose one optional module to study in each semester. The normal duration of full-time mode of study for Year-3 entry is one year and the normal duration of part-time mode of study is two years.
- 4.3.3 The Operator's Response specified that in Year 3 of this Programme, students should choose one out of three optional modules offered in September Semester and choose one out of four offered in February Semester. With regard to the selection of optional modules, the Panel required the Operator to provide clear information, guidance and formal procedures for advertising and administering optional module selection and allocation. The Panel noted that the Operator prepared the guidelines and procedures for students to indicate their selection of optional modules, including stipulating a minimum subscription threshold of 20 students for an optional module to be offered. At the accreditation meeting, the Panel corroborated with the student and graduate representatives regarding the advice provided by staff and the processes undertaken to help them in selecting the optional modules. The Panel was given to understand that students could not exercise their individual choices and they were told to vote to agree on choosing just one single optional module in each semester. To ensure that students are provided with detailed information on the optional modules and the mechanism and procedures for indicating their choices, and they can exercise genuine choices based on individual preferences, the Panel stipulated the following pre-condition.

Pre-condition

The Operator is to further develop and formalise the arrangement for promulgating information and selection guidelines on the optional modules to be offered in each semester in relevant formal channels/documents such as Student Orientation, Course Handbook and programme websites, before commencement of the Programme, and to ensure that there should be a minimum of two optional modules for students to choose in each semester, notwithstanding that only one optional module would be offered in the event that the other optional module cannot meet the specified subscription threshold.

The Operator is to:

- (a) keep a complete, formal and written record of the process with which the teaching staff advise students on the optional modules that would be offered so as to help individual student make his/her own choices, and
- (b) establish an optional module selection system to record and manage individual student's choices to ensure that students can exercise their choices for optional modules according to individual interest and preferences.

The Operator is to submit relevant information and evidence to HKCAAVQ for the fulfilment of the pre-condition above **on or before 30 April 2026**.

- 4.3.4 The Operator is required to provide evidence that information on the optional modules and the selection guidelines and process are adequately and effectively communicated to students, staff and prospective students. Formal records of students' choices for each optional module offered in each semester should be maintained for verification purposes and staff planning should ensure adequate staff expertise to cover the modules selected by students.

Requirement

The Operator is to provide the records and relevant documents regarding students' selection of optional modules for each semester, with the number of votes identified for each optional module, and to demonstrate clearly that the offering of a particular optional module in every semester is based on the result of student's individual choices.

The Operator is to submit relevant information and evidence to HKCAAVQ in fulfilment of the above requirement **within one month after the start of each semester.**

4.4 Learning, Teaching and Assessment

The learning, teaching and assessment activities designed for the learning programme must be effective in delivering the programme content and assessing the attainment of the intended learning outcomes.

- 4.4.1 The medium of instruction of the Programme is English that the Programme is delivered and assessed in English. All modules are taught and delivered using materials taught by UWL for the modules in the home country. The learning and teaching activities of the Programme include lectures, tutorials, presentations, seminars and workshops.
- 4.4.2 Having reviewed the accreditation documents and discussed with the teaching staff and students at the accreditation meeting, the Panel noted that given that this is a UWL programme, there have been constraints on the extent of localisation of the content. The Panel also noted in the Operator's further Responses that more case studies and data from the local context would be adopted for topics in relevant modules. Nonetheless, the Panel **recommended** that the Operator should review regularly the content of modules and consider including further contextualisation in the modules using local examples/context as and when appropriate.
- 4.4.3 In terms of assessments, a range of methods are adopted in the Programme, including written assignment and report, case study analysis, portfolio, essay, presentation, critical literature review, written examination and test, research poster and proposal, and dissertation. The Panel was given to understand that HKIT module teaching staff first mark the assessments, and 10% of marked assessments are reviewed by a second marker of HKIT. The double-marked assessments are reviewed by the Academic Partnership Link Tutor of UWL to ensure the double-marking is properly conducted. The marked assignments are also reviewed by the External Examiners of both HKIT and UWL to ensure consistency and fairness.
- 4.4.4 In relation to dissertation, the Panel noted that there is no minimum number of contact hours specified for dissertation supervision per

student. The Operator informed the Panel that the existing practice is for a dissertation supervisor to provide each student with an average of 15-minute weekly face-to-face consultation, amounting to a total of three hours per student per semester. The Panel held the view that this level of dissertation advising is on the low side, and **recommended** that the Operator should increase the minimum number of face-to-face consultation hours for each student to ensure that each student receives high-quality supervision and sufficient dedicated time for guidance and advising on their dissertation.

- 4.4.5 The Operator provided the Panel with Programme Specification and Module Specification documents with key information of each module such as module aims and content, module learning outcomes, assessment methods, learning hours and reading lists. In particular, the learning and teaching activities of each module including the teaching contact hours, independent guided study hours, independent study hours involved are indicated in the Module Specification. The Operator claimed that this Year-3 top-up degree consisting of 120 HKQF credits entailed 450 contact hours for full-time study in one academic year. To verify this claim, in addition to Operator's clarifications, the Panel reviewed the information on Year-3 modules in the module specification documents as set out in Table 1 below, which presented the student learning hours as comprising (i) teaching contact hours, (ii) guided independent study hours, and (iii) independent study hours. The Panel noted that there were no tutorial contact hours in any of the modules listed in Table-1. Moreover, no sufficient supporting evidence was provided by the Operator to clearly demonstrate the arrangement of guided independent study and independent study as contact hours, notwithstanding that they are recognised as part of the notional learning hours. As the Panel was not given relevant evidence, the Operator's claim that the Programme consists of 450 contact hours in the Year-3 study cannot be duly substantiated yet.

Table 1. Contact hours and learning hours information of the Year-3 modules

Module Title (Year 3)	Core/ Elective	QF Level	Teaching contact Hour	Tutorial contact Hours	Guided Independent Hour	Independent study Hour	Notional Learning Hour	QF Credits
Criminology Dissertation	Core (Sem 1)	5	22	0	48	130	200	20
Criminology Dissertation	Core (Sem 2)	5	22	0	48	130	200	20
Punishment, Rehabilitation and Offender Management	Core (Sem 1)	5	48	0	22	130	200	20
Complex	Core	5	36	0	52	112	200	20

Crime Scene Investigation	(Sem 2)							
Optional Module A	Optional	5	36	0	24	140	200	20
Optional Module B	Optional	5	36	0	48	116	200	20
Total			200	0	242	758	1200	120

4.4.6 The Operator in its further responses mentioned that HKIT would provide additional tutor-led supporting sessions to supplement post-class learning; and to integrate these sessions into scheduled teaching time thereby increasing the total contact hours for the Year-3 study. The Operator provided email correspondence with the UWL officers agreeing on changing some of the non-contact study hours into tutorial contact hours. However, no details were provided to the Panel on how many guided independent study hours of which modules would be replaced by tutorial contact hours. As tutorial contact hours and guided independent study are different pedagogical arrangement with different interaction pattern and learning experience, this issue was followed up by the Panel with both UWL and HKIT representatives at the accreditation meeting when HKIT informed the Panel that they proposed to convert all guided independent study hours for all the Year-3 modules into tutorial contact hours which will be supported by the HKIT tutors. The UWL representatives pointed out that “in-principle” approval of the proposed conversion was obtained in October 2025, albeit the latest proposed replacement of all guided independent study hours for all Year-3 modules with tutorial contact hours had yet to go through the formal approval process at UWL. As formal approval from relevant committees/university authorities on this major programme change was still pending and there was lack of details on the proposed conversion which should have been reflected in the module specification documents, the Panel stipulated the following pre-condition.

Pre-condition

The Operator is to provide:

- (a) the final version of the total contact hours, non-contact hours and notional learning hours for each of all modules of this top-up degree, with clear indication of the contact hours and non-contact hours for teaching, tutorial sessions, guided independent study and independent study etc., with evidence demonstrating that the conversion of all guided independent study hours into tutorial contact hours for all the modules has

duly followed the programme change, review and approval process of both HKIT and UWL, and

- (b) the approval documents of relevant UWL committees/approving authority with signatures and dates of the sign-off as required in UWL's quality assurance mechanism and process for endorsement of the above changes made to the module specification documents.

The Operator is to submit relevant information and evidence to HKCAAVQ for the fulfilment of the pre-condition above **on or before 30 April 2026**.

4.5 Programme Leadership and Staffing

The Operator must have adequate programme leader(s), teaching/training and support staff with the qualities, competence, qualifications and experience necessary for effective programme management, i.e. planning, development, delivery and monitoring of the programme. There must be an adequate staff development scheme and activities to ensure that staff are kept updated for the quality delivery of the programme.

4.5.1 Having reviewed the accreditation documents and discussed with the teaching staff of the Programme, the Panel noted the following arrangements:

- (a) HKIT has appointed a Programme Leader who has overall responsibility for academic direction, programme quality, staff coordination and liaison with the UWL. A Programme Coordinator has been appointed to support the Programme Leader in the area of administration and handling student-related matters such as enrolment and module registration.
- (b) UWL staff are not directly involved in classroom teaching for this Programme in Hong Kong; but UWL's Course Leader, the Academic Partnership Link Tutor (APLT) and module leaders maintain regular contact with HKIT staff to provide academic guidance and ensure alignment with UWL standards and participate in moderation, assessment review and examination board matters.
- (c) HKIT's teaching staff for the Programme and dissertation supervisors are required to be approved by UWL.

4.5.2 The Operator provided the following information to the Panel to demonstrate the academic leadership and staffing for the Programme:

- (a) qualifications and profile of the programme management staff of UWL and HKIT;
- (b) qualifications and experience of the teaching staff for the Programme and mapping of modules and teaching staff;
- (c) a list of the dissertation supervisors for this Programme and the appointment criteria for dissertation supervision;
- (d) staffing and staffing plan to support the Programme, and
- (e) staff development activities for both full-time and part-time teaching staff.

4.5.3 The Panel noted that the total contact hours for teaching and tutorials of HKIT's teaching staff is no more than 21 hours per week, and the teaching staff-to-student ratio (SSR) is set as 1:26 for degree programmes. For dissertation supervision, the Panel noted that the maximum supervisor-student ratio is set as 1:15, and a recommendation relating to student supervision time is delineated in section 4.4 above.

4.5.4 The Panel observed that many of the Hong Kong teaching staff were part-time and **recommended** that the Operator should review the number and ratio of full-time and part-time teaching staff to ensure that the balance between full-time and part-time teaching staff is appropriate for the number of students enrolled in the Programme.

4.5.5 Having considered the above information, the Operator's responses and the discussion with the various stakeholders, the Panel formed the view that the programme leadership and staffing are in general acceptable despite the recommendation.

4.6 **Learning, Teaching and Enabling Resources/Services**

The Operator must be able to provide learning, teaching and enabling resources/services that are appropriate and sufficient for the learning, teaching and assessment activities of the learning programme, regardless of location and mode of delivery.

- 4.6.1 In relation to financial resources, the Operator provided the Panel with the projected income and expenditure information of the Programme from AY2026/27 to AY2029/30, and the Panel noted that the Programme could generate a continuous surplus.
- 4.6.2 In relation to physical resources, the Operator provided the Panel with information on its learning, teaching and enabling resources relevant to the delivery of the Programme such as the general and specialised teaching facilities, computer laboratory, library and its resources. The Operator confirmed that all HKIT-UWL students have full access to UWL's electronic library resources through the UWL online portal. The Operator also informed the Panel that relevant statistical software package and data-analysis tools are also available at the HKIT campus. The Panel was provided with the utilisation planning information of the facilities for the Programme. Further to the feedback gathered at the discussion session with student representatives at the accreditation meeting, the Panel **recommended** that the Operator should regularly review and update as appropriate the currency of the equipment, relevant learning and teaching facilities to better support the learning and teaching of the Programme.
- 4.6.3 The Panel was given to understand that HKIT provides the following support services to students: dissertation writing workshops, counselling services, scholarships, supporting groups, career services, and services for students with disabilities.
- 4.6.4 In consideration of the information above and the discussion with relevant stakeholders including students, the Panel considered that the learning, teaching and enabling resources are in general acceptable for the Programme.

4.7 **Programme Approval, Review and Quality Assurance**

The Operator must monitor and review the development and performance of the learning programme on an on-going basis to ensure that the programme remains current and valid and that the learning outcomes, learning and teaching activities and learner assessments are effective to meet the programme objectives.

- 4.7.1 The Operator provided to the Panel the following information to demonstrate its system to monitor and review the development and performance of the Programme on an on-going basis:

- (a) Meeting minutes / extracts of Faculty of Science and Technology Board meetings and Programme Development Committee meetings;
- (b) UWL's *Academic Quality and Standards Handbook*;
- (c) UWL's *Global Partnerships Operations Manual for Partners*;
- (d) *BSc(Hons) CFI Course Handbook AY 2025/26*;
- (e) HKIT's *Quality Assurance Manual*;
- (f) Programme Monitoring Report;
- (g) External Examiner Reports;
- (h) Teacher Course Evaluation Report; and
- (i) Profiles of the External Advisors and External Examiner of the Programme.

4.7.2 Having reviewed the accreditation documents and the Operator's various responses, the Panel was given to understand that relevant programme development, monitoring and approval process, and quality assurance system and mechanism are in place to handle module and programme changes which might arise during the programme development and review process and/or in the light of experience for further improvement of the Programme. The Panel observed that despite the existence of these programme development and quality assurance mechanisms, the Operator has not demonstrated the expected rigour in implementing these processes and in a timely manner. A case in point is the handling of the proposed changes of converting some guided independent study hours for Year-3 modules of this Programme into tutorial contact hours as outlined in Para. 4.4.6. Such conversion involves major changes to the teaching and delivery pattern of the modules and impact on staffing and the student learning experience. The Panel was informed that UWL's individual officers with relevant oversight had agreed to HKIT's proposed changes; however, the specific roles and responsibilities of these officers in the approval process were not clearly articulated. Furthermore, at the accreditation meeting, UWL's representatives acknowledged that while "in-principle" approval was granted in October 2025 to convert some guided independent study hours into tutorial contact hours, the changes presented at the meeting extended this conversion to

all Year-3 modules. This broader programme change has not yet received the formal approval required by UWL's quality assurance system. Consequently, the module specifications for the Year-3 modules cannot be updated until the necessary formal approval is obtained. A related pre-condition is stipulated in Para. 4.4.6 to require the Operator to obtain evidence of formal approval by relevant committees/authority as stipulated in UWL's programme and quality assurance process. Furthermore, the Panel **recommended** that in processing any programme changes, the Operator should duly follow the established mechanism, process and procedures on programme review, development and quality assurance to ensure maintenance of academic standards and quality of the Programme.

- 4.7.3 The Panel took note that the External Examiners and External Advisors for the predecessor programme and for this revamped Programme have been appointed for a period of ten years or longer. The Panel **recommended** that the Operator should review the policy relating to external examiners and external advisors, in particular, establishing a maximum period for the appointments of external examiners and external advisors, in order to ensure sufficiency and diversity of input, objectivity and independence of their role in programme scrutiny.
- 4.7.4 The Panel noted that the Operator had not yet obtained documentary evidence of successful registration of this revamped Programme under the Non-Local Higher and Professional Education (Regulation) Ordinance (Cap 493). The Panel stipulated the following pre-condition:

Pre-condition

The Operator is to submit written confirmation of Registration for this updated Programme as evidence of successful registration under the Non-local Higher and Professional Education (Regulation) Ordinance (Cap. 493) to HKCAAVQ **on or before 30 April 2026**.

5. IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THIS ACCREDITATION REPORT

5.1 Variation and withdrawal of this Accreditation Report

5.1.1 This Accreditation Report is issued pursuant to section 5 of the AAVQO, and contains HKCAAVQ's substantive determination regarding the accreditation, including the validity period as well as any conditions and restrictions subject to which the determination is to have effect.

5.1.2 HKCAAVQ may subsequently decide to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report if it is satisfied that any of the grounds set out in section 5 (2) of the AAVQO apply. This includes where HKCAAVQ is satisfied that the Operator is no longer competent to achieve the relevant objectives and/or the Programme no longer meets the standard to achieve the relevant objectives as claimed by the Operator (whether by reference to the Operator's failure to fulfil any conditions and/or comply with any restrictions stipulated in this Accreditation Report or otherwise) or where at any time during the validity period there has/have been substantial change(s) introduced by the Operator after HKCAAVQ has issued the accreditation report(s) to the Operator and which has/have not been approved by HKCAAVQ. Please refer to the '*Guidance Notes on Substantial Change to Accreditation Status*' in seeking approval for proposed changes. These Guidance Notes can be downloaded from the HKCAAVQ website.

5.1.3 If HKCAAVQ decides to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report, it will give the Operator notice of such variation or withdrawal pursuant to section 5(4) of the AAVQO.

5.1.4 The accreditation status of Operator and/or Programme will lapse immediately upon the expiry of the validity period or upon the issuance of a notice of withdrawal of this Accreditation Report.

5.2 Appeals

5.2.1 If the Operator is aggrieved by the determination made in this Accreditation Report, then pursuant to Part 3 of the AAVQO the Operator has a right of appeal to the Appeal Board. Any appeal must be lodged within 30 days of the receipt of this Accreditation Report.

- 5.2.2 If the Operator is aggrieved by a decision to vary or withdraw this Accreditation Report, then pursuant to Part 3 of the AAVQO the Operator has a right of appeal to the Appeal Board. Any appeal must be lodged within 30 days of the receipt of the Notice of Withdrawal.
- 5.2.3 The Operator should be aware that a notice of variation or withdrawal of this Accreditation Report is not itself an accreditation report and the right to appeal against HKCAAVQ's substantive determination regarding accreditation arises only from this Accreditation Report.
- 5.2.4 Please refer to Cap. 592A (<https://www.elegislation.gov.hk>) for the appeal rules. Details of the appeal procedure are contained in section 13 of the AAVQO and can be accessed from the QF website at <https://www.hkqf.gov.hk>.

5.3 **Qualifications Register**

- 5.3.1 Qualifications accredited by HKCAAVQ are eligible for entry into the Qualifications Register ("QR") at <https://www.hkqr.gov.hk> for recognition under the QF. The Operator should apply separately to have their quality-assured qualifications entered into the QR.
- 5.3.2 Only learners who commence the study of the named accredited learning programme during the validity period and who have graduated with the named qualification listed in the QR will be considered to have acquired a qualification recognised under the HKQF.

Ref: 100/50/06

8 April 2026

JoH/CQ/BYLL/byll/cj

Hong Kong Institute of Technology and University of West London

**Learning Programme Accreditation for
BSc (Hons) Criminology with Forensic Investigation**

9 January 2026

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