THE LAW SOCIETY OF HONG KONG
香港律師會

Standing Committee on Policy and Resources

2021

STANDING COMMITTEE ON POLICY AND RESOURCES

The Standing Committee on Policy and Resources is responsible for overseeing the finance and administration of The Law Society, as well as formulating policy strategies for consideration by the Council.

During the year, the Standing Committee convened on 11 occasions. It reviewed and monitored the annual budget, income and expenditure as well as the registration and compliance statistics of The Law Society. It also oversaw the human resources and personnel aspects of The Law Society including staff employment matters and salary review. The Standing Committee also considered matters relating to the arrangements for e-Circulars, the technology roadmap, claims status under Section 25 of the Legal Practitioners Ordinance, nominations of representatives on external organisations, invitations to sponsor or support events and functions organised by external organisations, arrangements for the Annual General Meeting, and unclaimed money in client accounts. The Standing Committee also made recommendations on the composition and chairmanship of other Standing Committees for the Council's consideration and on amendments to the Standing Orders. The Standing Committee also monitored the progress of the revamp of the Law Society's membership database system and website.

HONG KONG LAWYER EDITORIAL BOARD

The Law Society publishes a monthly journal, *Hong Kong Lawyer*, which contains analysis of recent law and legal practice-specific advice, with priority given to matters affecting legal practitioners in Hong Kong.

To go in line with the emerging global trend of digital publication, *Hong Kong Lawyer* has moved into a digital-only version from the November issue.

The digital version of *Hong Kong Lawyer* is published monthly and available in both E-Journal and online versions at the Law Society App and the *Hong Kong Lawyer* website, Members as well as other legal professionals can read it online via computer, smart phone, tablet or other mobile devices. The digital Journal is also hyperlinked to internal and external references which are accessible with just one easy click of the mouse. The E-Journal thus also serves as a good source of reference materials for research. Individual stories (or the entire journal) can also be conveniently shared via social media and email. Readers may subscribe to the free E-newsletter offered by the publisher to keep posted on the release of the latest issue.

Members of the *Hong Kong Lawyer* Editorial Board ("the Editorial Board") meet at least once a month to discuss and identify topics of interest to the profession. The Editorial Board, comprising of members from diverse backgrounds from private practice, government agencies, in-house, academic, with IT, journalism and linguistic background, has continued to work closely with the publisher of *Hong Kong Lawyer* ("the Journal") to monitor the overall quality and standard of the publication and the official website.

WORKING PARTY ON THE LAW SOCIETY IT SYSTEMS

With the assistance of members of the Working Party, the Law Society has appointed a solution provider for and commenced the Membership Database System and Website System Revamp Project ("Revamp Project") in 2020. The new Law Society Website as the first phase of the Revamp Project was successfully launched in July this year giving a brand-new user experience to general members and external users and Phase Two of the Revamp Project involving revamp of the Membership Database System is underway.

With the support and recommendations from the Working Party, the Law Society has appointed a solution provider to upgrade our Document Management System this year.

The Revamp Project and the various system upgrades will help streamline work, improve the operation efficiency of the Secretariat and increase the stability and robustness of the IT systems for the benefit of all concerned, including the internal users, general members and the public.

The Working Party will continue to keep the Law Society IT Systems under review.