

Letterhead of THE LAW SOCIETY OF HONG KONG

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Your Ref :
Direct Line :

19th October 2001
BY FAX (2509 9055)

Mrs. Percy Ma
Clerk to Legco Panel on Administration
of Justice and Legal Services
3/F Citibank Tower,
No.3 Garden Road,
Central,
Hong Kong

Dear Mrs. Ma,

Sub-committee on Solicitors (Professional Indemnity)
(Amendment) Rules 2001

Thank you for your fax dated 19 October with enclosure the contents of which have been considered by the President.

The proposed amendment by the chairman seems to relate solely to whether the Law Society will consult its members prior to implementation of any recommendation to change the existing scheme or maintain the status quo. As we have said in the draft letter sent to you "any recommended arrangements will have to be acceptable to members of the Law Society.". Implicit in this statement is the intention to consult members on the recommendations made as a result of the review otherwise we would not know whether they were acceptable. The only issue appears to be whether the Law Society will consult its members before or after 30 September 2003 and that would seem to depend upon the progress of the review, the extent of the recommendations and how the membership may best be consulted. At this moment we cannot forecast the exact timing of the exercise but reiterate that it is the Law Society's intention to consult its members before proceeding with any changes to the existing scheme.

In the circumstances we respectfully suggest that the wording of our original draft should remain unchanged.

Your sincerely,

Patrick Moss
Secretary General

PM/dp