

Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services

List of follow-up actions

(position as at 18 November 2014)

Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up actions required	Response of the responsible party
1. Reform of the current system to determine whether an offence is to be tried by judge and jury or by judge alone	22 April 2014	The Department of Justice ("DoJ") was requested to provide information on the estimated overall resource implications (e.g. cost and procedural implications) if jury trials were introduced in the District Court.	DoJ will provide the information (to be worked out in consultation with the Judiciary) when the Panel next discusses the subject.
2. Draft Solicitor Corporation Rules and consequential amendments to the Legal Practitioners Ordinance (Cap. 159)	27 May 2014	The Law Society of Hong Kong ("the Law Society") was requested to provide information on the progress of and the proposed legislative timetable for introducing the subsidiary legislation on limited liability partnerships for legal practice to the Legislative Council ("LegCo").	The Law Society advised that the Chief Justice had given his approval in principle to the draft Solicitor Corporation Rules and the Drafting Division of the DoJ was vetting these draft Rules. The Law Society had also advised that it had confirmed with DoJ that it had no further comments on the proposed consequential amendments to the Rules of the High Court (Cap. 4A) (which sought to amend Order 81 of Cap. 4A) and the Rules of the District Court (Cap. 336H). The Law Society was desirous of

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			having the aforesaid subsidiary legislation placed before LegCo for negative vetting as soon as DoJ had completed vetting of them. The Law Society had conveyed its wish for the draft Rules to take place in the 2015-2016 legislative session.
3. Proposed creation of judicial posts and a non-civil service position in the Judiciary and strengthening of the directorate structure of the Judiciary Administration	24 June 2014	The Judiciary was requested to provide responses to the suggestion of providing "protected time" for judges to write judgments.	The Judiciary Administration's written response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)160/14-15(01) on 14 November 2014.
4. Development of mediation services in Hong Kong	22 July 2014	DoJ was requested to provide information on: (a) the number of applications for mediation services in respect of disputes relating to consumers in 2013; (b) the amount of money and time spent by parties to mediation through which the	DoJ's written response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)122/14-15(01) on 7 November 2014.

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		<p>disputes concerned were successfully resolved, and the projected savings if the cases were to go through court proceedings; and</p> <p>(c) the statistics of mediators accredited by the Hong Kong Mediation Accreditation Association Limited grouped by professional backgrounds.</p>	
<p>5. Provision of accommodation support for law-related organizations ("LROs") in the West Wing of the former Central Government Offices and the former French Mission Building ("FMB")</p>	<p>22 July 2014</p>	<p>DoJ was requested to provide information on:</p> <p>(a) whether the Administration would provide similar financial assistance in terms of accommodation support to other professional bodies, such as those relating to innovative design;</p> <p>(b) the actual vis-à-vis nominal rental payable by the selected LROs which would be allocated space in the West Wing and FMB; and</p> <p>(c) any other types of financial assistance provided to the LRO tenants such as HKIAC.</p>	<p>DoJ's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)79/14-15(01) on 27 October 2014.</p>

Legislative Council Secretariat
18 November 2014