

Our Ref: LRC/RES/169
Your Ref: CB2/PL/AJLS

2 November 2004

Mrs Percy Ma
Clerk to Panel
HKSAR Legislative Council
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central
Hong Kong.

Dear Mrs Ma,

Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services
Working Party on Solicitors' Rights of Audience

Thank you for your letter of 1 November 2004, requesting further information relating to the work of the Working Party on Solicitors' Rights of Audience.

The precise details of the consultation process, including the duration of the consultation period, will not be considered by the Working Party until nearer the time of completion of the consultation paper. In broad terms, however, I would expect that in addition to inviting comment from specific groups and individuals, the consultation paper will be freely available in both hard copy and via the Internet, and any member of the public will be free to comment on the Working Party's proposals.

As I indicated in my letter of 25 October 2004, the Working Party is working towards the completion of a consultation paper by the latter half of 2005. It would be premature at this stage to predict when the Working Party will complete its work and come up with its final conclusions and recommendations.

Yours sincerely,

(Stuart M I Stoker)
Secretary
Working Party on
Solicitors' Rights of Audience