



立法會秘書處 法律事務部 LEGAL SERVICE DIVISION LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SECRETARIAT

來函檔號 YOUR REF :

本函檔號 OUR REF :

LS/S/28/12-13

電 話 TELEPHONE:

3919 3500

傳真 FAX :

2868 2813

電郵 E-MAIL:

ytma@legco.gov.hk

9 July 2013

By Fax: 3579 2431

Mr. Rimsky YUEN, SC, JP Secretary for Justice 4/F, High Block Queensway Government Offices 66 Queensway Hong Kong

Dear Mr. YUEN,

Solicitors (General) Costs (Amendment) Rules 2013 (L.N. 110 of 2013)

I refer to the captioned amendment rules (Amendment Rules), which were published in the Gazette on 21 June 2013 as L.N. 110 of 2013, and were tabled at the Legislative Council on 26 June 2013.

At the meeting of the House Committee held on 5 July 2013, Members noted that the Amendment Rules were not properly made by the Costs Committee as provided under section 74 of the Legal Practitioners Ordinance (Cap. 159) and that The Law Society of Hong Kong had agreed to liaise with the Costs Committee to arrange for the Amendment Rules to be published in the Gazette again. Please see the attached copy of letter from The Law Society of Hong Kong.

A subcommittee has been formed under the House Committee to consider, among other things, how L.N. 110 should be dealt with as it has been published in the Gazette and tabled at the Legislative Council. To assist the subcommittee, we would like to invite the views of the Administration on any legal and related issues.

Please be informed that the first meeting of the subcommittee will be held on 19 July 2013. I would be grateful if your views, in both Chinese and English languages, could be made available to the subcommittee before that date.

Yours sincerely,

(Jimmy MA) Legal Adviser

Encl.

c.c. Clerk to the House Committee
Clerk to the Subcommittee on Solicitors (General) Costs
(Amendment) Rules 2013
The President, The Law Society of Hong Kong

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LAWSOCIETY HONG KONG

香港律師會

3/F WING ON HOUSE - 71 DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL - HONG KONG DX-009100 Central 1

香港中環德輔道中71號 泵安集團大廈3字樓

Our Ref : AL/kw/SG196
Your Ref : LS/S/28/12-13
Direct Line : 2846 0503

TELEPHONE (電話): (852) 2846 0500 FACSIMILE (搜具): (852) 2845 0387 E-MAIL (電子郵件): sg@hklawsoc.org.hk WEBSITE (網頁): www.hklawsoc.org.hk

BY EMAIL AND BY HAND

kylee@legco.gov.hk

2846 0503 28 June 2013

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Mr. Kelvin Ka-yun LEE
Assistant Legal Adviser
Legal Service Division
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex,
1 Legislative Council Road,
Central,
Hong Kong

Dear Mr. Lee,

Re: Solicitors (General) Costs (Amendment) Rules L. N. 110 of 2013, gazetted on 21 June 2013

I refer to your letter of 25 June 2013 to the President, Mr. Ambrose S. K. Lam.

- 1. The Law Society note your views that the Solicitors (General) Costs (Amendment) Rules should be made by the Costs Committee under section 74(3)(a) of the Legal Practitioners Ordinance ("the Ordinance"). We will liaise with the Costs Committee to arrange for the Amendment Rules to be gazetted again.
- 2. The Costs Committee is not a committee of the Law Society.
- 3. Subject to the views of the Costs Committee and the Department of Justice, the Law Society has no objection to adopt "with the prior approval of the Chief Justice" in the enacting formula.
- 4. We will liaise with the Costs Committee for them to provide the LegCo Brief when they submit the Amendment Rules to the Legislative Council.

Yours sincerely,

Angela Li Assistant Director, Regulation and Guidance Email: adrg@hklawsoc.org.hk

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Aumeied by the Hard Kong Cained of Social Service

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Incorporated in 1907 as a company limited by guarantee

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