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PRESS RELEASE

Civil Justice Reform: Interim Report and Consultative Paper

The Law Society of Hong Kong welcomes the publication of the Judiciary's Civil Justice Reform: Interim Report and Consultative Paper.

The Law Society's own Working Party on Civil Rules and Procedures of the High Court of Hong Kong ("The Law Society's Working Party") which was set up on 1 August 2000 to "review the civil rules and procedures and workings of the High Court and District Courts with a view to the improvement of the provision of dispute resolution and legal services to the public by every element of providers of legal services", has also looked at and identified areas in the civil process that require reform and has made its own proposals and recommendations for changes.

Allan Leung, Chairman of the Working Party commented : *"As the Judiciary's Consultative Paper addresses very similar issues which the Law Society's Working Party has looked at, rather than publishing two different reports in parallel covering common areas, the Law Society's Working Party will study the Judiciary's Consultative Paper and will incorporate its own proposals in its response to the Judiciary's Consultative Paper. Given that the Working Party has already come up with its own proposals, I expect our response to the Judiciary's Consultative Paper to be swift and comprehensive."*

Herbert Tsoi, President of the Law Society said *"I am grateful to members of the Law Society's Working Party, who are all busy practitioners, for their hard work. As they are at the forefront of the civil process, they are most attuned to the needs of litigants and hence, the need for changes to best serve the public. Their views and recommendations will certainly complement the Judiciary's proposals."*

For further information, please contact :

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