



THE
LAW SOCIETY
OF HONG KONG
香港律師會

LAW SOCIETY'S COMMENTS

Consultation Document Information Technology Strategy Plan for the Judiciary

The Law Society supports the Information Strategy plan for the Judiciary.

The Law Society notes it is vitally important that adequate resources be provided for the project as the proposal to upgrade the Judiciary's limited facilities is an integral part of the CJR and should be implemented as soon as practicable.

Key Initiatives

We note "Key Initiatives" such as electronic filing, electronic payment, and electronic listing should be given top priority as the use of IT for such tasks will reduce costs and unnecessary visits to the court by all court users.

Validation of Proposals by Pilot Studies

We note the proposal for Pilot schemes to be launched in the District Court and the Magistrates' Courts. We disagree. Pilot Schemes should be commenced in the High Court as we see no practical benefit of starting any Pilot Scheme in the Magistracy.

We trust the IT initiative will include non-contentious work conducted by the Probate Registry and consider a Pilot Scheme would be beneficial to probate practitioners.

Timetable and Implementation Approach

We note the Judiciary intends to adopt a 'building block approach' by conducting pilot schemes in strategic areas and rolling out the implementation in phases as appropriate.

However, the Judiciary should give top priority to the provision of wi-fi in all courts or at least all court buildings as this does not require any pilot scheme to test implementation. The Judiciary administration should also provide an adequate number of power points in all courts to enable practitioners to use laptops.

The Law Society of Hong Kong

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