

Report of the Council



The Council has pleasure in submitting its Annual Report together with the audited accounts for the year ended 31 December 2007.

Principal place of business

The Law Society of Hong Kong is a company limited by guarantee, and is incorporated and domiciled in Hong Kong and has its registered office and principal place of business at 3/F, Wing On House, 71 Des Voeux Road Central, Hong Kong.

Principal Activities

The principal activities of The Law Society are to act as the professional and regulatory body for solicitors in Hong Kong. The principal activity and other particulars of The Law Society's subsidiary are set out in Note 8 to the accounts.

Accounts

The results of The Law Society's operations for the year ended 31 December 2007 and the state of The Law Society's affairs at that date are set out in the accounts on pages 120 to 138.

Membership

At 31 December 2007 there were 6,474 members of The Law Society. The total number of Practising Certificates issued was 5,925. There were 709 firms of solicitors and 56 registered foreign law firms.

Fixed Assets

Movements in fixed assets during the year are set out in Note 7 to the accounts.



Donations

Donations by The Law Society during the year amounted to \$6,000,000 (2006: \$6,146,337) which represented donations to The Law Society of Hong Kong Educational Trust Fund.

Auditor

KPMG was the auditor of The Law Society in 2007. The auditor retired and, being eligible, offer itself for re-appointment. A resolution for the re-appointment of KPMG as auditor is to be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Bankers

The bankers are The Bank of East Asia, Limited, The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, Standard Chartered Bank Limited and Wing Lung Bank Limited.

Council Members

No contract of significance to which The Law Society or any of its subsidiary was a party and in which a Member of the Council had a material interest subsisted at the end of the year or at any time during the year.

At no time during the year was The Law Society or its subsidiary a party to any arrangement to enable a member of the Council to acquire benefits by means of acquisition of an interest in The Law Society or any other body corporate.

The table below shows the Council Members during the year and their attendance at the Council meetings. The Council held 29 meetings of which 27 were scheduled and 2 were called at short notice.

| | Regular Meeting | Unscheduled Meeting | Total |
|--|-----------------|---------------------|-------|
| Lester G. Huang (Elected as President on 17 May 2007) | 24 | 2 | 26 |
| Wong Kwai Huen (Re-elected as Vice-President on 17 May 2007) | 25 | 2 | 27 |
| Junius K.Y. Ho (Re-elected as Vice-President on 17 May 2007) | 20 | 1 | 21 |
| Peter C.L. Lo | 22 | 1 | 23 |
| Michael J. Lintern-Smith | 19 | 0 | 19 |
| Ip Shing Hing | 23 | 0 | 23 |
| Billy W.Y. Ma | 20 | 2 | 22 |
| Sylvia W.Y. Siu (Re-elected on 17 May 2007) | 17 | 0 | 17 |
| Cecilia K.W. Wong | 24 | 0 | 24 |
| Alex T.H. Lai (Re-elected on 17 May 2007) | 24 | 0 | 24 |
| Kenneth S.Y. Ng | 20 | 1 | 21 |
| Andrew Jeffries | 9 | 0 | 9 |
| Stephen W.S. Hung | 25 | 2 | 27 |
| Dieter L.T. Yih (Re-elected on 17 May 2007) | 15 | 0 | 15 |
| Ambrose S.K. Lam (Re-elected on 17 May 2007) | 16 | 0 | 16 |
| Joseph C.W. Li | 22 | 1 | 23 |
| Amirali B. Nasir | 24 | 2 | 26 |
| Melissa K. Pang | 18 | 0 | 18 |
| Thomas S.T. So (Re-elected on 17 May 2007) | 23 | 1 | 24 |
| James E. Jamison | 11 | 0 | 11 |

By order of the Council
Lester G. Huang
President