

Council's Report

The Council has pleasure in submitting its annual report together with the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2012.

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS

The Law Society of Hong Kong ("The Law Society") 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 is to act as the professional and regulatory body for solicitors in Hong Kong. The principal activity and other particulars of The Law Society's subsidiaries are set out in note 8 to the financial statements.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The surplus of The Law Society for the year ended 31 December 2012 and the state of The Law Society's affairs at that date are set out in the financial statements on pages 175 to 194.

MEMBERSHIP

As at 31 December 2012, there were 8,561 (2011: 8,448) members of the Society. The total number of Practising Certificates issued was 7,482 (2011: 7,149). There were 806 (2011: 784) firms of solicitors.

PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Movements in property, plant and equipment during the year are set out in note 7 to the financial statements.

DONATIONS

Donations by The Law Society during the year amounted to HK\$40,000 (2011: HK\$2,840,000) which represented donations to World Wild Fund For Nature of HK\$33,000 (2011: HK\$ Nil), The Hong Kong Medical Association Charitable Foundation of HK\$3,000 (2011: HK\$ Nil), ORBIS International Incorporated of HK\$3,000 (2011: HK\$ Nil), The Hong Kong Council of Social Service of HK\$1,000 (2011: HK\$ Nil), The Hong Kong Academy of Law Limited of HK\$ Nil (2011: HK\$2,700,000) and Hong Kong Polytechnic University of HK\$ Nil (2011: HK\$140,000)

BANKERS

The bankers are The Bank of East Asia Limited, The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, Hang Seng Bank Limited, Standard Chartered Bank Limited, Wing Lung Bank Limited, Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited and Bank of Communications Co., Limited.

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COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Council Members during the financial year and up to the date of this report; and their attendance at the Council meetings are shown in the table below.

	Regular Meeting	Unscheduled Meeting	Total	Official Duties
Dieter Yih, President (from 24 May 2012)	26	4	30	2
Junius K. Y. Ho, President (until 24 May 2012)	23	2	25	1
Ambrose S. K. Lam, Vice President	23	3	26	5
Stephen W. S. Hung, Vice President (from 24 May 2012)	30	4	34	1
Huen Wong (re-elected on 24 May 2012)	25	3	28	1
Peter C. L. Lo	25	2	27	0
Michael J. Lintern-Smith (re-elected on 24 May 2012)	26	2	28	0
Billy W. Y. Ma	24	2	26	0
Sylvia W. Y. Siu	25	4	29	0
Cecilia K. W. Wong	29	3	32	1
Kenneth S. Y. Ng (re-elected on 24 May 2012)	18	2	20	0
Joseph C. W. Li	26	2	28	1
Amirali B. Nasir (re-elected on 24 May 2012)	23	4	27	0
Melissa K. Pang	25	3	28	2
Thomas S. T. So	27	3	30	1
Angela W. Y. Lee	26	3	29	1
Brian W. Gilchrist (re-elected on 24 May 2012)	26	2	28	0
Gavin P. Nesbitt	23	3	26	0
Denis G. Brock	18	3	21	0
Charles C. C. Chau (co-opted on 28 February 2012 and elected on 24 May 2012)	23	2	25	1

In accordance with article 15(a) of The Law Society's articles of association, at the forthcoming annual general meeting the five members longest in office since election or re-election shall retire but shall be eligible for re-election.

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

Except for the related party transactions as disclosed in note 18(a) to the financial statements, no contract of significance to which The Law Society, or any of its subsidiaries or related company was a party, and in which Members of the Council had a material interest subsisted at the end of the year or at any time during the year.

AUDITOR

KPMG retire and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-appointment. A resolution for the re-appointment of KPMG as auditors of the Society is to be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

By order of the Council

Dieter Yih

President

2 April 2013