FAQs – Acquisition of New Office Premises by the Law Society

Q1. Where is the Law Society's new office located?

The new office is situated on the 26th Floor of The Center, No. 99 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong, with a total gross floor area of approximately 24,980 square feet.

Q2. Who owns the new office premises?

The Law Society of Hong Kong is the sole and legal owner of the new premises.

The target move-in date is tentatively set for Q3 2026, subject to the renovation schedule. Renovation works are expected to commence before Q2 2026. Members will be regularly updated via official communication channels.

Q3. What was the decision-making process behind acquiring the new premises?

Recognizing the growing needs of the Law Society since moving into Wing On House in 1998, the Council has established a dedicated Working Party on Law Society Premises ("Working Party") to consider the Law Society's long-term space needs and to review the options available. Over the years, the Working Party has assessed relevant factors which would impact upon the purchase, and attended site visits to a number of premises.

Following a comprehensive review, and after carefully evaluating various options and conducting site visits, the Working Party submitted its recommendation of the acquisition to the Council. After thorough review and discussion, the Council endorsed this recommendation as a strategic step forward.

The decision to acquire new premises was driven by a combination of practical and strategic considerations. Easy access by members, affordability and long-term suitability of the new premises are among some of the primary factors for the acquisition.

Similar to the Law Society, a number of organizations have acquired new premises for self-use in recent years, some of which are shown in here.

Q4. How will members benefit from the new premises?

The new premises will enhance operational efficiency by centralizing the Secretariat's functions and providing improved facilities. We also recognize that the new premises should be a purpose-built venue for the benefit of members. With this in mind, part of the new premises will serve as the Law Society clubhouse for members' use, Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and Risk Management Education (RME) courses, seminars, and meetings for the Law Society's more than 130 committees and working parties.

Q5. How much did it cost to acquire the new premises?

The new premises were acquired at a purchase price of HK\$345,000,000.

Q6. How was the acquisition funded?

The acquisition was financed through the Law Society's existing reserves and prudent financial planning. For further details, please refer to the financial statements in the 2024 Annual Report. There are no plans to increase membership or practising certificate fees as a result of this acquisition.

Q7. Did the Professional Indemnity Scheme or the Solicitors Indemnity Fund contribute to the funding?

No. The acquisition was entirely funded by the Law Society's own financial resources.

Pursuant to the Solicitors (Professional Indemnity) Rules, Cap. 159M, the Fund can only be used to provide indemnity to Hong Kong law firms against such loss as is mentioned in section 73A of the Legal Practitioners Ordinance, Cap. 159.

Q8. What would be the future use of the Law Society's existing office located at 3/F, Wing On House?

We are exploring various possibilities and have engaged a professional firm to conduct a thorough fiscal analysis of the options.

Q9. How is transparency maintained while ensuring confidentiality in the acquisition process?

While confidentiality is essential to protect the Law Society's interests during the acquisition process, we are committed to transparency. Members will continue to be kept informed and engaged through regular updates and open communication.

Q10. When is the completion date of the new office premises?

The sale and purchase of the new office premises has been completed on 1 December 2025.

<u>Note</u>: The information contained in this FAQ is current as of 10 December 2025. The FAQ will be updated regularly to keep members apprised of any further developments and when more information is available.