

- (h) may empower the Council to take such steps as they consider necessary or expedient to ascertain whether or not the rules are being complied with; and
- (i) may contain incidental, procedural or supplementary provisions.
- (4) If any solicitor (not being a solicitor who is exempt from complying with indemnity rules) fails to comply with the rules any person may make a complaint in respect of that failure to the Tribunal Convenor of the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal Panel.
- (5) The Society shall have power, without prejudice to any of its other powers, to carry into effect any arrangements which it considers necessary or expedient for the purpose of indemnity under this section.
- (6) Every rule made by the Council under this section shall be subject to the prior approval of the Chief Justice.
- (7) No rule made under this section shall apply to a person to whom section 75 applies in so far as such person is acting in the course of the employment which gives rise to the application of that section.

**73B. Fees for continuing legal education courses**

The Council may by resolution determine the fees that must be paid for continuing legal education courses.

**73C. Council may delegate**

The Council may delegate to any person or to a committee of the Council any of the powers or duties granted or imposed on the Council or the Society under this Ordinance, other than the power to make rules under sections 73 and 73A.

**74. Costs Committee**

- (1) There is hereby established a Costs Committee consisting of the following persons-
  - (a) a judge of the Court of First Instance appointed by the Chief Justice as Chairman;
  - (b) the Registrar or a deputy registrar of the High Court;
  - (c) for the purposes of the Solicitors (General) Costs Rules (Cap. 159 sub. leg.), the Director of Buildings and Lands, or his representative approved by the Chief Justice;
  - (ca) for the purposes of the Solicitors (Trade Marks and Patents) Costs Rules (Cap. 159 sub. leg.), the Director of Intellectual Property, or his representative approved by the Chief Justice;
  - (d) the President and one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society and 2 members of the Society nominated by the Society and approved by the Chief Justice.
  - (e) 3 persons appointed by the Governor who, in the Governor's opinion, can represent the interests of consumers of legal services.
- (1A) None of the persons appointed under subsection (1)(e) may be a legal practitioner or a public officer.
- (2) The quorum for a meeting of the Costs Committee is the Chairman and 5 members.

- (3) The Costs Committee may make rules-
  - (a) providing for the remuneration of solicitors in respect of non-contentious business;
  - (b) prescribing that, as regards the mode of remuneration, it shall be according to the scale of rates or percentage varying or not in different classes of business, or by a gross sum, or by a fixed sum for each document prepared or perused, without regard to length, or in any other mode, or partly in one mode and partly in another;
  - (c) regulating the amount of remuneration with reference to all or any of the following, among other, considerations, that is to say-
    - (i) the position of the party for whom the solicitor is concerned in the business, that is, whether as vendor or purchaser, lessor or lessee, mortgagor or mortgagee, and the like;
    - (ii) the place where, and the circumstances in which, the business or any part thereof is transacted;
    - (iii) the amount of the capital money or rent to which the business relates;
    - (iv) the skill, labour and responsibility involved therein on the part of the solicitor;
    - (v) the number and importance of the documents prepared or perused, without regard to length;
  - (d) authorizing and regulating the taking by a solicitor from his client of security for payment or otherwise, which may become due to him under any such rule; and
  - (e) authorizing and regulating the allowance of interest on costs and expenses.
- (4) Every rule made under this section shall be subject to the prior approval of the Chief Justice.
- (5) So long as any rules made under this section are in operation, taxation of bills of costs of solicitors in respect of non-contentious business shall, subject to the provisions of section 5, be regulated by such rules.