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司法機構政務處

Judiciary Administration

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本函檔號 Our Ref.:

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9 September 2021

Mr C.M. Chan
President
The Law Society of Hong Kong
3/F, Wing On House
71 Des Voeux Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear President,

**Judiciary's Information Technology Strategy Plan :
Implementation of the Integrated Court Case Management System
at the District Court**

I write to inform you of the forthcoming plan of implementation of the Judiciary's Information Technology Strategy Plan ("ITSP") for selected civil proceedings at the District Court.

Latest Position

With the kind support of the Law Society, we have been making good progress in the preparation of the incremental implementation of the integrated Court Case Management System to enable e-filing of court documents. As indicated before, we will first implement it at the District Court.

On legislation, the Court Proceedings (Electronic Technology) Ordinance (Cap. 638), which enables the use of an electronic mode for handling court documents in general, was enacted in July 2020. The relevant subsidiary legislation, including the procedural rules, has also recently been enacted. The relevant legislation is available on the Government's e-legislation website.

On system development, we have just completed three rounds of pilot runs with law firms on a few selected types of civil proceedings at the District Court, namely Personal Injury, tax claim and civil actions cases. We have received useful feedback and are making refinements to our system as appropriate.

We are now finalizing the relevant Practice Direction and administrative documents (which cover user registration, e-payments and technical requirements). We are also preparing the necessary materials to facilitate users' actual use of the System, including pamphlets, user guide, demonstration video clips and frequently asked questions, etc. We are setting up an e-floor at the District Court with the necessary equipment to facilitate e-filing, e-search and e-inspection.

Planned Commencement

Subject to the progress of the preparatory work, it is the Judiciary's target to roll out the first type of civil proceedings, namely Personal Injury cases, in December 2021. Our plan is that an implementation notice as provided under section 32 of Cap. 638 will be issued by the Chief Justice shortly before the implementation date to legally enable the electronic mode for handling the related court documents for those cases, including e-filing and inter-party service of documents.

We will provide you with more information in the coming few months so that practitioners may get prepared for the implementation. To facilitate communication with court users, including practitioners, we will also set up closer to the implementation date a dedicated webpage on the Judiciary's website to provide the most updated information. We will let you know when the webpage is set up.

You may wish to keep your members posted of the above developments.

Yours sincerely,



(Ms Wendy Cheung)
for Judiciary Administrator

c.c. Mr Kenneth Fok ←
Director of Practitioners Affairs