

Report of the Committee on Construction Law 2024

1. The Construction Law Committee comprises the members listed below.

Thomas W.M. Lee (Chairperson)
Calvin Y.C. Cheuk (Vice Chairperson)
Anthony K. Houghton, SC
Paul N. Barrett
Harrison C.H. Cheung
Julian A. Cohen
Kim Margaret Rooney
Solomon L.F. Lam
Matthew W.W. Cheung
Kaiser K.H. Leung
Brian M.H. Chok
Adela Mao Mao
Ronald Tse Fung Pang
Pakco P.F. Chan
Christopher Wing To
Phillip Rompotis
Warren Lampson Suen
Sin Hang Lo
Calvin Siu Lun Law
Bennett C.L. Au-Yeung
Kelvin Kam Yuen Wong

2. The Committee's priority is promoting the education, study and practice of construction law by barristers, especially junior barristers. The Committee considers this best be done through live events with live interaction.
3. This year the Committee rebooted its construction disputes training programme, comprising five talks, from May to October 2024, covering all key areas, with the participation of not just Committee members but also senior construction industry experts. The programme was well received and will be a leading feature of our work in future years.
4. The Construction Industry (Security of Payment) Bill was passed by the HK Legislative Council on 19 December 2024, and will come into full operation in 2025. This is a major and long-awaited development for all concerned, in an important sector of the HK economy. The Committee drafted a paper for the HKBA on the practical consequences, for the judiciary and court users, that was placed before the Legislative Council. Monitoring the implementation of this legislation will be an important part of the Committee's work going forward.

5. The Committee has given consideration to raising with the Judge in charge of the Construction and Arbitration List the possibility of setting up a consultative committee of legal practitioners - akin to the TCC Users' Committee in England & Wales (as provided for under paragraph 6 of PD 6.1) to facilitate the smooth running of the list. No decision has been taken on this to date.
6. The Committee continues to explore other options for the promotion of construction law within and outside the Bar. Members are actively involved in the consideration and award of scholarships by the Society of Construction Law Hong Kong to pupils interested in pursuing a practice in construction law.

Thomas W.M. Lee
Chairperson
Committee on Construction Law

19 December 2024