

POLICY ON THE USE OF AI (October 2025)

- 1. The use of AI (Generative and other) is increasingly commonplace in legal practice and will only increase with time. AI is only a tool. AI is not infallible.
 - a. Where AI is used professionally, by a Member of Chambers, it should be used to support and facilitate the delivery of high-quality legal services and advice. It is not an alternative to applying professional skill, analysis, judgement, and hard work,
 - b. If AI is used for professional purposes, it must be used responsibly and with proper thought and safeguards.
 - c. AI should never be used to do a task that legally or ethically could not be delegated to another human being. For example, judicial and quasi-judicial decision making is not delegable to another person, and so it should not be left to AI.
 - d. A Member of Chambers using AI in their practice still takes individual personal responsibility for the end product that he or she delivers to solicitors, clients, tribunals, courts etc.
- 2. It is the responsibility of each Member of Chambers to:
 - a. decide whether to make use of AI in their practice and, if so, when and how to do so;
 - b. ensure that their use of AI complies with all ethical, legal and client obligations, duties and standards;
 - c. make an informed choice as to what AI platforms to use in the course of their practice¹;

The functionality, risks and limitations associated with the use of AI will vary significantly between different platforms and also different uses. Generally closed system Large Language Models specifically designed for legal professionals will have more functionality and less risk than open platforms such as Chat GPT etc. However, even closed system Large Language Models designed for legal professionals carry limitations and risks. These must be taken into account.

- d. understand what are appropriate and inappropriate professional uses for the AI platforms being utilised²;
- e. understand what the risks and limitations are of the AI platforms being utilised including, for example, the sources of data that the platform accesses, whether it a closed or open system, how reliable the data set may be, and how up to date the data set is³, etc;
- f. avoid infringing intellectual property rights.
- 3. The use of AI does not replace a Member of Chamber's own endeavours or responsibilities.
 - a. A Member of Chambers must never simply adopt or blindly make use of the output from AI just as a Member of Chambers must never just simply adopt or blindly make use of a work product produced by a devil or a pupil or a mini-pupil or a student etc.
 - b. It is the personal responsibility of Members of Chambers to take appropriate steps to verify that any AI generated material (including authorities) that they may wish to use or rely on is not, and does not contain, a hallucination or misleading or inaccurate or wrong information.
 - c. In the event that a Member of Chambers discovers, after the fact, that AI generated material (including authorities) used or relied upon was, or contained, a hallucination or misleading or inaccurate or wrong information, the Member of Chambers should immediately consider whether any body or person needs properly to advised or notified of this discovery and, if so, the Member of Chambers must act promptly.
- 4. Members of Chambers must comply at all times with their professional and legal obligations with respect to client confidentiality, legal privilege and data protection.
 - a. Inputting client or case information or material into public AI / Large Language Models such as ChatGPT is very likely to be a breach of professional confidentiality duties and also to lead

Checking whether a case has been cited or appealed or over-turned should currently not be done using a Large Language Model AI system as they search by context and not Boolean Logic. A more traditional legal search engine is better for this. For general legal research, Large Language Models can be far more effective at identifying a good starting point than traditional legal search engines.

For legal research it is important to understand whether only official sources and judgements are used, what law reports comprise the data set, what jurisdictions are in the data set, what practitioner resources are in the data set, and how up to date the judgments and data sets are.

to a loss of privilege. It may well also be a breach of data protection obligations and could, as not privileged, give rise to the risk of defamation.

- b. Even closed AI / Large Language Models systems sold for legal professional usage should not simply be assumed to have in place appropriate safeguards for maintaining confidentiality, privilege and data privacy.
- c. All Members of Chambers must take appropriate steps to understand how an AI / Large
 Language Models platform makes use of inputted data, information, documents and prompts
 etc. <u>before</u> inputting, or permitting others to input, anything into the platform that may be
 confidential or privileged or be the subject of data protection obligations or the like.
- d. All Members of Chambers must take appropriate steps to instruct all Pupils, Mini-Pupils, devils, students, and others that they:
 - i. must maintain and safeguard confidentiality and privilege at all times;
 - ii. must not input into any AI platform anything material or information that may be confidential or privileged or be the subject of data privacy obligations or the like without express prior approval— and only then when the Member of Chambers is satisfied as to the appropriateness of the relevant AI platform.
- 5. All Members of Chambers, including those not currently using AI in their practices, should keep up to date with guidance and practice notes issued by the Bar Council, the Judiciary and other professional bodies. See (as at October 2025) the following non exhaustive list of resources and guidance notes:
 - a. Hong Kong Judiciary Guidelines on use of Generative AI
 - b. English Bar Council Guidance on Generative AI
 - c. Law Council of Australia portal for Artificial Intelligence and the Legal Profession
 - d. Chief Justice of NSW: change at the Bar and the great challenge of gen AI
 - e. Hong Kong Office for Privacy Commissioner: AI Model Data Protection Framework
 - f. Chartered Institute of Arbitrators Guidelines on use of AI in Arbitration

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