

法援局自成立以來，一直與負責制定法律援助（法援）政策及管理法律援助署的政策局保持密切聯繫。在 2020-2021 年間，政府告知本局關於政府就不同法援議題提出的建議或表達的立場，包括呈交立法會司法及法律事務委員會的文件，這些文件涉及法援申請人財務資格限額的周年檢討及有關法援的政策措施。

本局主席在 2020 年 12 月 23 日為香港律師會主辦的「法律周 2020」暨「青 Teen 講場」10 周年網上開幕禮擔任主禮嘉賓。「法律周」是一項年度活動，旨在宣傳法律服務和提高市民的法律知識，而「青 Teen 講場」是香港律師會的另一項旗艦活動，旨在提供一個能與香港律師互動的平台，向年輕一代推廣法律教育。

除此之外，本局注意到個別立法會議員及部分市民近期對一些法律援助議題存有誤解，部分針對法律援助政策的偏見甚或在社交媒體廣泛流傳。為積極提升香港法律援助服務的正面形象，本局主席和法律援助署署長（法援署署長）於 2021 年 2 月曾接受星島集團的訪問，相關的文章並於三月初在《東周刊》、《星島日報》和《英文虎報》上發佈。

Since its establishment, the LASC has been maintaining regular contacts with the government bureau responsible for formulating legal aid policy and housekeeping the Legal Aid Department. In 2020-2021, the Council was kept informed by the Government on its proposals or positions in relation to legal aid issues, including the papers submitted to the Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services of Legislative Council concerning the annual review of financial eligibility limits of legal aid applicants and the policy initiatives in respect of legal aid.

On 23 December 2020, the Council Chairman officiated at the Joint Opening Ceremony of Teen Talk 10th Anniversary and Law Week 2020 online, which was launched by the Law Society of Hong Kong. Law Week has been organised annually to promote legal services and enhance the legal knowledge of the general public while Teen Talk is another flagship event of the Law Society of Hong Kong aiming at promoting legal education amongst younger generation through an interactive forum with Hong Kong lawyers.

Apart from the above, the Council noted that there have been recent concerns from some Legislative Council Members and members of the public on some misconception of certain legal aid issues. Some of the biased opinions against the provision of legal aid policy may even go viral through social media. To proactively reinforce the positive image of legal aid services in Hong Kong, the Chairman and the Director of Legal Aid (DLA) had been interviewed by Sing Tao Group in February 2021 and relevant articles were published on the East Week, Sing Tao Daily and the Standard in early March.

同時，本局亦進一步優化網站，優化後的網站引入了多項新功能，主要包括可相容流動裝置的版本、符合無障礙準則以及彈出特別公告的通知視窗，預計未來可為市民提供更多有關法律援助的最新資訊。

本局將致力釐清社會上一些有關法援制度的誤解，為市民提供更多關於法援制度真實和正面的訊息。

Meanwhile, the Council has taken the opportunity to revamp the website. The revamped website introduced various new features, including but not limited to production of a mobile-friendly version, compliance with accessibility standards, and creation of pop-up notification window special announcement. It is expected to provide more updates in relation to legal aid provision for public's information in future.

The Council would endeavor to put persistent and conscious effort in dispelling the fallacies of public beliefs and presenting the truth of the legal aid system to the public.

