



POLICY ON THE USE OF AI

(Revised July 2026)

1. The use of AI (generative, agentic and other) is increasingly common in legal practice and will only increase with time. Looking ahead, a blanket refusal to engage with AI will not be a viable strategy:
 - a. The legal professionals that thrive are likely to be ones that learn how to use AI effectively and ethically, whilst understanding when and how it should not be used. Lay clients and Instructing Solicitors will increasingly be familiar with AI, and will expect counsel to be
 - b. Senior members of the judiciary in major common law jurisdictions have suggested in public speeches that there may well be circumstances in the future where a legal professional could be negligent if they fail to use AI.
 - c. Avoiding AI entirely may become difficult or impossible in any event as AI is already being increasing built into software applications and research tools.
2. It is accordingly the responsibility of all Members of Chambers to:
 - a. develop sufficient competence in the use of AI to enable them to make informed decisions regarding the use of AI tools in their individual practice;
 - b. decide whether to make use of AI tools in their practice and, if so, when and how to do so;
 - c. ensure that their use of AI complies with all ethical, legal and client obligations, duties and standards;
 - d. make an informed choice as to what AI platforms to use in the course of their practice;
 - e. understand what appropriate and inappropriate professional uses are for the AI platforms being utilised;

- f. 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 is etc;
 - g. avoid infringing intellectual property rights; and
 - h. verify, check and validate all outputs from AI tools before adopting or relying on them.
3. 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 not 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 takes individual personal responsibility for the end product that he or she delivers to solicitors, clients, tribunals, courts etc.
4. The use of AI does not replace a Member of Chamber's own endeavours or responsibilities. AI does not alter where professional responsibilities, duties and liabilities lie:
- a. It is clear from the decisions of courts in multiple jurisdictions that legal professionals are responsible and liable for AI originated errors and problems in their work products and advice in the same manner as they are for non-AI originated errors and problems.
 - b. The fact that information, material, research or analysis originated from a machine rather than another person does not reduce the need for a Member of Chambers to verify, validate and evaluate it before making use of it.
 - c. The fact that a pupil or mini pupil or devil made use of AI to generate output does not reduce the need for a Member of Chambers to verify, validate and evaluate the output before making

use of it. To the contrary, the Member of Chambers has a duty and responsibility to verify, validate and evaluate the output before making use of it.

- d. The fact that a third party (such as a client or a solicitor) made use of AI to generate output does not generally reduce the need for a Member of Chambers to verify, validate and evaluate the output before making use of it – although this may vary in the specific circumstances.
 - e. Use of AI or other technology does not replace professional judgement, skill and care – although technology will become one of the circumstances and factors in exercising professional judgement skill and care.
5. 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 another person:
- a. 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.
 - b. 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 be advised or notified of this discovery and, if so, the Member of Chambers must act promptly.
 - c. In the event that a Member of Chambers discovers, that he or she has misled any court or tribunal by relying on, or incorporating, AI output, the Member of Chambers has a duty to bring that immediately to the attention of the relevant court or tribunal in a full and frank manner.
6. 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

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. The same concerns about confidentiality, privilege and data protection may apply to apps and programmes (such as translation software, automatic transcription services for virtual meetings, dictation etc etc) where data is uploaded, processed by the third party, and then downloaded or sent back to the user's machine.
 - c. 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.
 - d. All Members of Chambers must take appropriate steps to understand how an AI / Large Language Model platform / app / software makes use of inputted data, information, documents and prompts etc. before 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.
7. Members of Chambers are responsible for the conduct of Pupils, Mini-Pupils, students, and others interns. Members of Chambers are responsible for ensuring that all Pupils, Mini-Pupils, students, and others interns are instructed that they:
- a. must maintain and safeguard confidentiality and privilege at all times;
 - b. must not input any material or information into any AI platform, or carry out any research or other task using any AI platform without the express approval of the relevant Member of Chambers;
 - c. must not ever input any confidential or privileged or sensitive material or information or data into any AI platform without the relevant Member of Chambers confirming that the intended AI platform is a suitable and appropriate platform
7. 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.

8. See (as at July 2026) 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. [**Hong Kong Office for Privacy Commissioner: AI Model Data Protection Framework**](#)
- e. [**Chartered Institute of Arbitrators Guidelines on use of AI in Arbitration**](#)
- f. [Australian Federal Court Guidance on use of generative AI](#)
- g. [English High Court Chancellor speech to City of London Law Society](#)
- h. [UK Courts Guidance on use of AI for Judicial Office Holders](#)
- i. [Impact of AI on the legal profession, Law Society of Hong Kong](#)

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24 July 2026