



2 July 2020

Mrs Fiona McLeay
Victorian Legal Services Commissioner
Level 5/555 Bourke St
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

By Email: cpdreview@lsbc.vic.gov.au

Dear Commissioner McLeay,

RE: CONTINUED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ISSUES PAPER

1. We refer to your Continued Professional Development Issues Paper (“**the CPD Paper**”) and thank you for the opportunity to make comment in relation to same.
2. The Legal Forecast (“**TLF**”) is a national not-for-profit organisation with the objective of facilitating connections between law students and professionals with a focus on technology that is underpinned by wellness within the law. You can find more information about us on our website: <https://www.thelegalforecast.com/>.
3. We are grateful for the CPD Paper and consider that it endeavours to tackle a significant number of relevant issues facing the legal profession in a manner that is timely and necessary.
4. We do not intend to fully respond to the CPD Paper as we consider our role as a facilitator does not directly extend to the development of policy; however, we wish to mark our comment in support of the process being undertaken and, particularly, draw attention to the American Bar Association Model Rule 1.1 which was introduced in 2012 and requires a lawyer to keep abreast of changes in the law and its practice, including the benefits and risks associated with relevant technology¹.
5. We have been hosting events across Australia since 2016 that align with the sentiment associated with Model Rule 1.1 including our national flagship event, “Disrupting Law”² and “Race to the Future”³ which was a “first of its kind” hackathon hosted in Victoria. We consider that these events provide an invaluable professional development experience for students and professionals alike and we have received extensive feedback to this effect⁴.
6. We commend the incorporation of events, such as those hosted by TLF, to the CPD Issues Paper as a means to actively and meaningfully engaging ongoing professional development.

¹ https://www.americanbar.org/groups/professional_responsibility/publications/model_rules_of_professional_conduct/rule_1_1_competence/comment_on_rule_1_1/.

² <https://www.thelegalforecast.com/disrupting-law-national>.

³ [https://www.lawyersweekly.com.au/newLaw/23239-innovative-race-to-the-future-a-hit-in-victoria](https://www.lawyersweekly.com.au/newlaw/23239-innovative-race-to-the-future-a-hit-in-victoria).

⁴ See for example: <https://lawcpd.com.au/blog/disrupting-law-perth-mentoring-7-disruptive-ideas-improve-law/>; <https://news.griffith.edu.au/2018/11/27/first-year-law-student-disrupts-legal-industry/>; <https://www.ailira.com/the-legal-forecast-deploy-ailiras-chatbot-for-law-build-platform/>.

7. We trust that this brief submission is of assistance to your work.
8. Please do not hesitate to contact the writer should you require any further information or documentation.
9. We look forward to your Report in due course.

Kind Regards,



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