

9 November 2020

The Hon Peter Quinlan
Chief Justice of Western Australia
Chief Justice's Chambers
Supreme Court of Western Australia
28 Barrack Street
PERTH WA 6000

By email: Chief.Justice.Chambers@justice.wa.gov.au

Dear Chief Justice

COSTS DISCLOSURE FOR STRATEGIC CONFERENCES

I refer to your letter dated 11 September 2020.

I confirm that it is the position of the Law Society that disclosure during both mediations and strategic conferences is preferable.

The Law Society re-affirms its view that transparency between parties as to costs would allow the Court to openly comment on the costs of proceedings where they are disproportionate to the value, importance and complexity of the subject matter in dispute and the financial position of each party.

Transparency as to costs may assist parties to put the costs of proceedings into perspective, encourage early settlement of disputes and put downward pressure on practitioners in respect of their costs.

The Law Society would be happy to provide any further comments regarding amendments to the standard directions regarding the memorandum of costs.

Yours sincerely



Nicholas van Hattem
President