

New 'Lawyers Admission Handbook' is general guide

A new handbook is now available which gives information on both the implementation of the Mutual Recognition Scheme as well as the adoption of the Uniform Admission Rules throughout Australia.

The publication, "The Lawyer's Admission Handbook", is primarily for those interested in applying for admission outside their "home" jurisdiction.

It is not a step-by-step guide but provides practical information about the current state of play in each Australian jurisdiction.

The handbook contains three tables which outline the implementation of the Mutual Recognition Scheme throughout Australia, the implementation of the Uniform Admission Rules throughout Australia and compares the current admission rules in each jurisdiction in Australia with the proposed Uniform Admission Rules.

The handbook deals with the requirement for admission in each of the eight jurisdictions.

It also contains a copy of the Uniform Admission Rules and details regarding the various admitting authorities throughout Australia.

The cost of each handbook is \$20.

However, the cost is \$15 where an order is placed for five or more handbooks.

The handbooks are available from the Centre for Legal Education.

The centre's address is GPO Box 232, Sydney, NSW 2001.

For further information phone the centre on (02) 221 3699 or facsimile (02) 221 6280.

Orders can be placed by telephone and sent with an invoice.

Alternatively, an order can be sent to the centre with a cheque.

Reform of Appeals from Appeals Tribunal?

The Administrative Appeals Tribunal Act 1975 provides for appeals from the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) to the Federal Court on a "question of law".

Over recent years, several commentators have suggested that there may be a need to reconsider the manner in which this provision allows the Federal Court to deal with appeals from the AAT.

These suggestions have been made mainly in the context of patents and taxation decisions.

Any general change to the ground of appeal from the AAT, however, may well have implications across all AAT review jurisdictions.

The Administrative Review Council has published a discussion paper that deals with this subject and raises issues for public comment.

In a nutshell, the discussion paper asks:

- * whether the ground of appeal from the AAT to the Federal Court should be broadened;

- * whether the Federal Court, where it finds on appeal that the AAT has made an error of law, should be

given a discretion to determine questions of fact;

- * whether the President of the AAT should be given a discretion to refer whole cases to the Federal Court for determination; and

- * whether any change to AAT appeals or referrals should be general or be limited to particular AAT review jurisdictions.

The Council is aware that there may be constitutional issues involved in answering these questions and also invites comments on these issues.

Anyone wishing to obtain a copy of the discussion paper should call May Roberson at the Council Secretariat on (06) 257 6113.

Submissions are sought by August 25, 1995.

For information on this project please contact the Council project officer Charles Beltz on (06) 257 6115.

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