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**Advisory**

27 August 2020

**LPC urges practitioners to pay outstanding annual levies**

The Legal Practice Council would like to urge all legal practitioners to settle their outstanding annual levies. The collection rate for the annual levies has been very low this year.

In terms of Rule 4.1 every legal practitioner who is admitted and enrolled in terms of section 24(1) of the Legal Practice Act as a legal practitioner shall pay an annual fee to the Council at such time as may from time to time be fixed by the Council. Paragraph 3.16 of the Legal Practice Council Code of Conduct states that unless exempted therefrom, legal practitioners shall pay promptly to the Council or any organ of the Council, or to the Fund, all amounts which are legally due or payable in respect of fees, charges, levies, subscriptions, penalties, fines or any other amounts of whatsoever nature levied on legal practitioners, candidate legal practitioners or juristic entities in terms of any powers arising under the Act or the rules;

The Council is mindful of the difficult situation faced by the legal profession due to the impact of Covid-19. The Council is mandated to require payment of the levies to ensure that it is able to sustain all its functions and obligations, but practitioners are able to enter into arrangements with the provincial offices to pay outstanding levies, and those who cannot settle the levies in full forthwith are urged to enter into such arrangements to the satisfaction of their provincial offices.

**Issued by the Legal Practice Council**