

Subsidiary Legislation made under s.18(1)(b).

Solicitors' (Practising Certificates) (Extension of Validity) (No 2) Rules 2021

LN.2021/479

Commencement **5.12.2021**

ARRANGEMENT OF RULES.

Rule

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2017-15

Legal Services

**2021/479 Solicitors' (Practising Certificates) (Extension of Validity)
(No 2) Rules 2021**

In exercise of the powers conferred upon him by section 18(1)(b) of the Legal Services Act the Chief Justice has made these Rules –

Title and commencement

1.(1) These rules may be cited as the Solicitors' (Practising Certificates) (Extension of Validity) (No 2) Rules 2021

(2) These rules come into operation on the date of publication.

Interpretation

2. In these Rules –

“2005 Rules” means the Solicitors' (Practising Certificates) Rules 2005

“2020 Rules” means the Solicitors' (Practising Certificates) (Extension of Validity) Rules 2020

“LSRA” means the Legal Services Regulatory Authority a statutory authority created by section 14 of the Legal Services Act 2017

“CEO” means the Chief Executive Officer of the LSRA

“solicitor” includes a barrister who acts as a solicitor pursuant to section 32 of the Supreme Court Act and a registered European Lawyer.

“auditor” has the meaning ascribed to it in the 2005 Rules

Extension of Validity of Practising Certificates

3. Subject to compliance with the requirements in rule 4, practising certificates issued on or before 30th April 2022 and valid and subsisting as at that date shall remain valid until such date as is fixed by the Chief Justice by Notice in the Gazette.

Requirements for Extension of Validity

4. The requirements referred to in rule 3 are –

- (a) the solicitor must have provided to the CEO not later than 31 December 2021 the auditors' certificate which satisfies the LSRA that such solicitor has complied

with the Solicitors' Accounts Rules for the preceding year as provided by the 2005 Rules; and

- (b) the solicitor must produce to the CEO not later than 31st March 2022 a certificate of cover or similar document which satisfies the CEO that the solicitor has taken out and is maintaining professional indemnity insurance in the minimum sum of £1,000,000 each claim and in the aggregate.

Termination.

5.(1) The period of validity of practising certificates issued on or before 30th April 2022 shall end on that date if the requirements in rule 4 are not met.

(2) Where the validity of a solicitor's Practising Certificate is not to be extended due to non-compliance with rule 4, the CEO shall notify the solicitor no later than 15th April 2022.

Deemed Compliance.

6. A solicitor shall be deemed to have complied with rule 4 if he satisfies the CEO that the firm of solicitors in which he is a consultant, partner, associate or employee has complied with rule 4.

Continuing Application of the 2005 Rules and the 2020 Rules.

7. Save as otherwise provided for in these Rules and the 2020 Rules strictly in respect of the period(s) and for the purposes of the extension of validity of Practising Certificates, the 2005 Rules shall continue to apply.

Appeal

8. Any solicitor who is aggrieved that his practising certificate has not been extended by operation of these Rules may appeal in writing to the Chief Justice.