

### Patent Attorney Qualifying Examinations and the Coronavirus Health Crisis

In the light of coronavirus pandemic, candidates will be concerned about the status of Qualifying Examinations scheduled for October. No decision has yet been made with regard to cancellation or postponement of the examinations. The status of the examinations is under regular review with particular regard given to Government advice and guidance issued by the World Health Organisation. One such review will be at the end of May before registration for qualifying examinations opens. Enquiries are being made as to the feasibility of alternative examination arrangements should it not be possible to run the examinations, in conventional form, in October due to health concerns or logistical problems. Such alternative arrangements will take into account any rescheduling of the EQEs. We are mindful that this is a difficult time for candidates, who we appreciate are trying to progress their careers. Every endeavour will be made to run the examinations in 2020 but candidates will appreciate that we have to ensure that examinations can be run in a safe environment and in compliance with Government requirements. Candidates will be updated of any developments via the CIPA website.

PEB Governance Board

8 April 2020