

# Local Government Virtual Forum

## Program



Join us for one or both lunchtime webinar dates – on each date, choose one session from three concurrent options

### Wednesday 24 September: 1-2pm

#### 1. Enforcement Options for Unauthorised Building Work *Presenters: Laura Raffaele & Monique Lewis*

Unauthorised building work, including breaches of development consent, continues to emerge across every local government area in NSW. This presentation will provide council officers with a practical overview of key enforcement tools and strategies, with reference to interesting case law decisions, including:

- **Building Information Certificates** – when and how they can be used
- **Development Control Orders** – the do's and don'ts of drafting orders
- **Land and Environment Court proceedings** – seeking orders in the Land and Environment Court through Class 4 or Class 5 of the court's jurisdiction.

Don't miss this opportunity to strengthen your understanding of the legal pathways available to address non-compliant development in your LGA.

#### 2. Workers Compensation Legislative Reforms – Psychological Injury *Presenter: Mick Franco*

This session will explore recent workers compensation reforms addressing psychological injury in the workplace. We will focus on new eligibility requirements for compensation, along with the processes and jurisdictions for establishing or challenging claims arising from bullying, excessive work demands, and sexual or racial harassment. These reforms, introduced by the NSW Government, are aimed at responding to the rising cost and prevalence of workplace psychological injury.

#### 3. Invoice Fraud and Building & Construction Update

*Presenters: David Creais & Nicholas Kallipolitis*

This joint session will cover two key areas of risk and opportunity for councils:

- **Invoice Fraud – Risk and Response**  
Invoice scams, where fraudsters impersonate legitimate suppliers with fake invoices and bank account details, are a growing issue for councils managing payments to multiple suppliers each year. This segment explores when councils may still be liable to the genuine supplier despite having already paid the fraudster, and practical measures to reduce exposure to these scams.
- **Building & Construction Legislative Update**  
A practical update on legislative developments in the building and construction space, and a focus on how councils can use project delivery agreements to deliver local projects efficiently and lawfully.

### Wednesday 1 October: 1-2pm

#### 1. It's Always Your Fault – the New World of Victimisation *Presenters: James Mattson, Linda Mackinlay & Andrew Yahl*

*The Industrial Relations and Other Legislation Amendment (Workplace Protections) Act 2025* broadens the NSW Industrial Relations Commission's remit to determine if a council has victimised an employee or prospective employee because the person has a protected attribute.

In a world where disgruntled employees often seek to attribute blame to others than be accountable and reflective for their own poor conduct and performance, these new provisions present a risk to councils. There are new protected attributes. And then the remarkable new provision that "the Commission may have regard to conscious and unconscious factors ... when determining" if council victimised an employee.

How will council navigate this new world? Will you need a hypnotist or neuroscientist in your HR team? In this webinar we explore the new provisions and take learnings from the Federal system.

#### 2. Serious Invasion of Privacy – 2025 Legislative Changes *Presenter: Jason Sprague*

This session will unpack what the changes mean for local government, highlight key risk areas such as CCTV, staff records and community consultations, and outline practical steps councils should take now to reduce risk exposure.

Join us for insights, case studies and a practical checklist to help your council prepare.

#### 3. Caveats and Leases – Navigating Risks, Structures and Best Practice for Councils

*Presenters: Melissa Potter & Stefan Rajcevski*

This session will provide practical guidance for councils on two important areas of property law:

- **Caveats** – Understand the nature of caveats, when and how they can be used by councils, and the potential risks and liabilities if a caveat is wrongly lodged or not withdrawn promptly.
- **Leases** – Explore the structuring of lease transactions, including the key documents that may be required and practical considerations to ensure transactions are properly managed.

Designed with a focus on common pitfalls and best-practice strategies, this webinar will help council officers and advisors approach caveats and leases with greater confidence and clarity.

- Cost – free of charge.
- Feel free to extend this invitation to your council colleagues where appropriate.
- This event is for local government representatives. Attendance by non-government is by exception only.