AUSTRALIAN REGULATORY SUMMIT 2026

20 Aug | 8.00am - 6.00pm
Four Seasons Hotel Sydney

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Australian Regulatory Summit 2026

Regulation under pressure: enforcement, accountability and the new risk frontier

20 August
Four Seasons Hotel Sydney

Regulation under pressure: enforcement, accountability and the new risk frontier

In 2026, regulators are not retreating. They are intensifying.
ASIC has doubled its enforcement operations. APRA's accountability frameworks now carry personal liability. AUSTRAC has moved from education to enforcement. And the obligations bearing down on compliance, legal and risk functions, across AI, cyber, climate reporting, financial crime and workforce compliance are expanding faster than governance frameworks can keep pace.
The Australian Regulatory Summit 2026 is built for the leaders navigating this environment: General Counsel, Chief Risk Officers, Chief Compliance Officers, Board Directors, senior executives and the financial crime, privacy and governance practitioners who carry the weight of regulatory accountability every day.
This is not a compliance update. It is a senior-level examination of where enforcement is heading, what regulators now assume your organisation can already do, and what will no longer be tolerated by 2027.

What topics will be covered in the one-day intensive program?

- Where director and executive liability sits now, including when governance documentation protects decision-makers and when it becomes evidence against them
- What regulators are doing with your culture data, and how conduct evidence is being used in enforcement
- What AI governance looks like in practice, not in policy, and where regulators are already intervening
- How operational resilience is assessed after an incident, and what "demonstrable uplift" actually requires
- What the first cycle of mandatory climate reporting has revealed, and where enforcement scrutiny will focus next
- How Tranche 2 AML/CTF obligations are landing in practice, and who is struggling and why
- What the Scams Prevention Framework, sanctions regime and VASP licensing changes mean for compliance functions now
- What regulators will no longer tolerate by 2027, what organisations are getting wrong and what must change

What makes 2026 essential and who should join

This summit is designed for professionals across:

- Audit, risk, and compliance
- Legal and regulatory affairs
- Financial services and governance
- Cybersecurity and digital innovation
- Executive leadership and board governance
- Policy and public sector regulation

Why attend?

- Hear directly from top regulators and industry experts
- Gain practical strategies for compliance, governance, and risk
- Stay ahead of regulatory reform and digital disruption
- Earn CPD credits with expert-led, non-promotional content
- Network with over 300 legal, GRC & executive leaders

What attendees say...

"Congratulations to you and the team for a very well-run event. I thought there was a great energy in the room and plenty of great topics of conversation. It seemed all the attendees were really engaged and it was a great line up of content."

Alexandra Tighe
Partner, Clayton Utz

"All the panels were extremely thought provoking and I also really loved the colour coded sessions and headphones – I'd never experienced this format before and I found it such a great way to focus in on the different sessions! It was a privilege to participate in such an excellent program and line up"

Alysia Abeyrante
Senior Manager, Digital Policy, National Australia Bank

"As a leader in compliance eLearning and training, we were thrilled to sponsor the Australian Regulatory Summit hosted by Thomson Reuters. This event provided an invaluable platform to connect with key stakeholders, industry experts, and regulatory bodies. Our participation allowed us to showcase our commitment to compliance and regulatory excellence. The insightful discussions and networking opportunities were instrumental in strengthening our relationships and staying ahead of the curve in this dynamic regulatory landscape."

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AGENDA OVERVIEW

7:30 Registration opens

8:00 Breakfast - Compliance in the Age of AI: Assurance, Insight and Decision-Making

8:55 Opening Remarks by the MC & Welcome from Thomson Reuters

9:00 Australia in an age of disruption and great power rivalry

9:30 Financial Crime
Tranche 2 — who's struggling and why

10:10 Financial Crime
Sanctions in a geopolitically unstable world

10:45 Morning tea and networking

STAGE 1

11:20 Governance & Accountability
Whistleblower protections in practice: what investigations now reveal

12:00 Governance & Accountability
Compliance drift: governing payroll risk with control and accountability

12:40 Lunch and networking

1:30 Governance & Accountability
Mandatory Climate Reporting: Insights from the First Cycle

2:10 Governance & Accountability
Operational resilience: from disruption to regulatory recovery

STAGE 2

11:20 Cyber & AI
Cyber risk quantification: bringing financial discipline to regulatory cyber governance

12:00 Cyber & AI
Governing AI without a rulebook: what does compliance mean now?

12:40 Lunch and networking

1:30 Financial Crime
Payments licensing and the new VASP regime: what compliance functions need to build now

2:10 Cyber & AI
Deepfakes, synthetic identity & the new fraud frontier and the impacts on the Australian community

2:50 Afternoon tea and networking

3:20 Governance & Accountability
Director liability in 2026: where the lines are now

3:50 Governance & Accountability
Privacy Act reforms: what changed, what's live and what's coming next

4:20 What regulators will no longer tolerate by 2027

5:05 MC Close & Prize Draw

5:10 Networking beverages and canapes

5:50 Event Close

Agenda is subject to change.

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SESSION DETAIL

7:30 Registration opens

8:00

BY INVITATION ONLY

Breakfast - Compliance in the Age of AI: Assurance, Insight and Decision-Making

Compliance in the Age of AI: Assurance, Insight and Decision-Making
As regulatory obligations expand and organisations become more complex, boards and executives are being asked to provide greater confidence in how risks are identified, monitored and managed.
The emergence of AI is raising important questions for leaders. As technology changes how organisations assess compliance, detect risk and generate insight, leaders must determine where AI can genuinely improve assurance, where human judgement remains critical, and what effective oversight looks like in practice.
Using workforce and payroll compliance as a practical example, this session explores how AI is influencing approaches to assurance and risk management, what this means for governance and decision-making, and the considerations for organisations as these technologies become increasingly embedded in business processes.

Key takeaways

- The implications of AI for governance, assurance and oversight
- How assurance models are evolving in response to AI
- Lessons from 158+ workforce and payroll audits
- What leaders should consider as AI becomes embedded in risk and control environments

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Marcus Zeltzer
Founder
Yellow Canary

8:55 Opening Remarks by the Chairperson

9:00 Welcome from Thomson Reuters

9:05

Australia in an age of disruption and great power rivalry

Events are now challenging Australian establishment views of the world. Donald Trump continues to shatter assumptions about American global leadership, while Xi Jinping displays an increasing preparedness to flex China's military muscle. How does Australia navigate this new era of great power competition? For the moment, Canberra is keeping its head down, gritting its teeth and hoping for American renewal. But is that going to be enough? Is sufficient long-term thinking being done about how Australia negotiates a very different Asia in future? And what are the consequences of all this for new regulatory perimeters?

Prof. James Curran
University of Sydney,
Australian Financial Review

9:30 Financial Crime

Tranche 2 — who's struggling and why

One year after Tranche 2 extended AML/CTF obligations to designated non-financial businesses and professions, implementation outcomes remain uneven across the sector.

In this session, AUSTRAC CEO Brendan Thomas reflects on early supervisory engagement with newly regulated entities—highlighting where compliance efforts are falling short, why gaps are emerging, and what regulators are seeing in practice, tested against real-world implementation challenges from industry.

Moving beyond reform intent, the discussion focuses on implementation reality, examining persistent issues in customer due diligence, transaction monitoring, and ongoing compliance. It distinguishes between expected transitional growing pains and deeper structural weaknesses that organisations are now confronting under active regulatory scrutiny.

Brendan Thomas
CEO
AUSTRAC

Krzysztof Lyson
Senior Director, Risk and Compliance
Torrens University Australia

Gavin Coles
Global Sanctions Officer
OFX

10:10 Financial Crime

Sanctions in a geopolitically unstable world

The geopolitical pressures shaping sanctions policy are becoming increasingly complex, creating new challenges for organisations operating across borders.

In this keynote address, Hugh Watson, Assistant Secretary, Australian Sanctions Office, will discuss the evolving sanctions environment, emerging risks for business, and the importance of managing sanctions as part of broader organisational risk and governance frameworks.

Hugh Watson
Assistant Secretary,
Australian Sanctions Office

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10:45 Morning tea break

STAGE 1

11:20 Governance & Accountability

Whistleblower protections in practice: what investigations now reveal

Whistleblower protections exist on paper — but are they working in practice? Recent court decisions and emerging case law are beginning to show how these protections are actually being applied , and where organisations are getting it wrong.

This session brings together legal and public interest perspectives to examine what recent investigations, cases and lived experiences reveal about the effectiveness of whistleblower frameworks in Australia. From confidentiality breaches to victimisation risks and failures in internal handling, speakers will unpack where organisations are most exposed — and what the consequences look like when protections fail.

Moving beyond policy, this discussion focuses on the gap between legal obligations and operational reality, and what boards and senior executives need to get right when a disclosure is made.

Anneliese Cooper
Lawyer
Human Rights Law Centre

Vivienne Brand
Professor of Corporate Law,
Flinders University, Non-Executive Director

12:00 Governance & Accountability

Compliance drift: governing payroll risk with control and accountability

Payroll is no longer a back office function. Shaped by recent reforms such as Payday Super, wage theft laws and increased Fair Work enforcement, payroll risk now sits at the intersection of regulatory exposure, financial risk and public scrutiny, requiring active governance from boards and executives.

This session examines how payroll compliance drift develops inside large organisations, why it is often missed, and how boards and executives can strengthen visibility, challenge assumptions and respond with greater control.

Key takeaways:
- How payroll risk builds across policy, systems and operations
- Early signals that indicate broader, systemic exposure
- Where boards lack visibility and the questions directors should be asking
- What directors must evidence as regulatory expectations increase, including Payday Super
- Ideal for: Senior leaders, GCs, CFOs, Chief Risk Officers and Heads of Governance/Compliance

Marcus Zeltzer
Founder
Yellow Canary

Kara Nicholls
Founder & Managing Director
Impact Governance

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STAGE 2

11:20 Cyber & AI

Cyber risk quantification: bringing financial discipline to regulatory cyber governance

Heat maps and qualitative risk ratings are no longer sufficient. Regulators expect organisations to demonstrate proportionate, evidence-based investment in cybersecurity — and boards need financial language, not technical language, to make defensible decisions. This session introduces cyber risk quantification as a practical governance tool: how to translate cyber exposure into structured financial estimates, how to align cybersecurity investment to enterprise risk appetite, and how CRQ integrates with existing prudential and operational risk frameworks without replacing them. Attendees will leave with a clear methodology for moving from subjective scoring to financially grounded, regulatorily defensible cyber governance.

Key takeaways:
- Move beyond heat maps to defensible financial exposure — understanding how structured financial estimation strengthens board oversight, proportionality and regulatory defensibility
- Support "reasonable steps" through evidence-based decision making — how quantifying potential loss enables rational allocation of cybersecurity investment aligned to enterprise risk appetite
- Integrate CRQ into enterprise and regulatory risk frameworks — how cyber risk quantification complements existing ERM, prudential standards and governance obligations without replacing established frameworks

Luke Irwin ISSMP, CISSP, CISM
Principal Consultant & CEO
Aegis Cybersecurity

12:00 Cyber & AI

Governing AI without a rulebook: what does compliance mean now?

Australia does not yet have standalone AI legislation — but AI use is already captured under existing frameworks including privacy, consumer law, anti-discrimination, financial services and sector-specific regulation. At the same time, international standards are rapidly filling the governance gap: ISO 42001, the world's first AI Management System standard, is already being implemented by Australian organisations building defensible AI governance ahead of formal regulation.

This session cuts through theory to examine what effective AI governance looks like in practice — from risk tiering and model transparency to bias testing, board oversight and disclosure obligations. Speakers address where regulators are already intervening despite the absence of dedicated AI legislation, and how organisations can use standards frameworks to build governance that is defensible to regulators, boards and legal teams right now.

The session serves both organisations asking "where are we exposed?" and those asking "how do we move forward with confidence?" — with practical, implementation-grounded answers from speakers who have built it.

Andrew Hottes CEO - ISO4 FBCS CITP
ISO 27001 & 42001 Lead Auditor

Jamal Waqar
Head of Research, Experience, Data and Analytics
Standards Australia

Anna Gamvros
Head - Asia Pacific Privacy and Cybersecurity practice
A&O Shearman

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12:40 Lunch and networking

STAGE 1

1:30 Governance & Accountability

Mandatory Climate Reporting: Insights from the First Cycle

Australia is at the forefront of global adoption of mandatory climate reporting, with organisations now completing their first set of climate disclosures aligned to international standards.

Annual reports now reflect how organisations identify and manage climate-related risks and opportunities across governance, strategy, risk management and metrics, including scenario analysis, Scope 3 emissions and board oversight.

The session explores how climate risk is being integrated into financial reporting and governance processes, and how organisations are presenting clear, decision-useful information to stakeholders.

Moderator

Reiko Mori
Executive Officer and Deputy Head of Asia Pacific
Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation

Panellists

Rachel Poo
Head of Group Statutory Reporting and Accounting Policy
QBE Insurance

2:10 Governance & Accountability

Operational resilience: from disruption to regulatory recovery

Operational resilience has moved from regulatory aspiration to enforceable obligation and regulators now assume that disruption will occur. The real test is no longer whether incidents happen, but how organisations respond once they do.

While CPS 230 sets the standard for APRA-regulated entities, the underlying expectations, rapid containment, executive oversight, third-party accountability, customer harm mitigation and credible remediation — are increasingly being applied across sectors.

This session examines how regulators assess post-incident response: what constitutes an acceptable remediation plan, how independent reviews are scrutinised, and what "demonstrable uplift" actually looks like following a service outage, cyber incident or critical supplier failure. Speakers address the governance frameworks, board decisions and documentation regulators expect to see after things go wrong — and where organisations most commonly fall short.

Izabel Greco
General Manager - Prudential, Governance & Accountability
TAL

Richard Storey
Partner - Risk Consulting
GRANT THORNTON

STAGE 2

1:30 Financial Crime

Payments licensing and the new VASP regime: what compliance functions need to build now?

The rules governing digital payments and virtual assets in Australia are changing and the deadlines are closer than most compliance teams realise.

AUSTRAC's enhanced VASP regime is already live. ASIC's no-action position on crypto AFSLs expires 30 September 2026, just seven weeks before this Summit. The new payments licensing framework is reshaping obligations across banks, fintechs and digital platforms. And the gap between what the legislation says and what organisations actually need to build is significant.

This session cuts through the complexity. Speakers address what the regime requires right now, what is changing before year end, and what compliance functions need to have in place on custody, disclosure, AML obligations and licensing — before regulators come knocking.
If your organisation touches digital payments, crypto assets, embedded finance or cross-border transactions, this session is built for you.

Jack Morgan
Head of Policy
FinTech Australia

Ramanathan Karuppiah
Financial Crime Compliance Specialist & Certified Auditor

Steven Pettigrove
Partner, **Piper Alderman & FinTech**
Head of **Blockchain Group.**

2:10 Cyber & AI

Deepfakes, synthetic identity & the new fraud frontier and the impacts on the Australian community

Generative AI has transformed fraud from an emerging risk into an operational reality. Synthetic identity fraud, voice cloning, deepfake authorisation and AI-generated documentation are now being deployed at scale, undermining identity verification and breaking controls that were state-of-the-art just eighteen months ago.

This session examines how fraud typologies are evolving in real time, why traditional onboarding, authentication and detection frameworks are failing, and what organisations must rebuild in response. As AI lowers the barrier to entry and accelerates both the speed and scale of attacks, trust itself is becoming a vulnerability.

The discussion focuses on the practical challenge facing compliance, fraud and cyber teams: how to adapt controls, restore trust, and respond to a threat landscape where identity can no longer be taken at face value.

A critical upstream view of the risks now feeding into scams, financial crime and cyber incidents across sectors.

Charlotte Davidson
Interim Chief Executive Officer
IDCARE Group

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SESSION DETAIL

2:50 Afternoon tea break

Plenary

3:20 Governance & Accountability

Director liability in 2026: where the lines are now

Director and executive liability has expanded sharply in recent years, driven by FAR, CPS 230, psychosocial risk enforcement, climate reporting, and evolving interpretations of the business judgement rule.

This session maps where liability lines are now being drawn across WHS, cyber, climate, and FAR—what "reasonable steps" require in practice, where organisations are falling short, and what regulators expect to see under scrutiny.

It also addresses two critical pressure points: legal advice privilege—when it protects directors and when it fails—and board documentation—when it operates as a defence, and when it becomes a roadmap for regulators.

Focused on real enforcement risk, this session is directly relevant to directors, general counsel, and company secretaries navigating heightened personal accountability.

Moderator

Marcus Zeltzer
Founder
Yellow Canary

Jason Masters
Non Executive Director, Audit, Risk, and Governance leader

Simon Mitchell GAICD
Acting Head of Policy
Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD)

3:50 Governance & Accountability

Privacy Act reforms: what changed, what's live and what's coming next

Australia's privacy landscape continues to evolve with enforcement becoming more apparent and compliance no longer a risk-based option. This session will explore the Privacy Act reforms already enacted through the POLA Act, the implications for organisations today, and the status of the proposed Tranche 2 reforms that are yet to materialize. We'll separate fact from speculation, discuss what businesses could or should be doing now, and examine what the next phase of privacy reform could mean for compliance, risk, and customer trust.

Adam ford
Managing Director, ANZ
IAPP

Olga Ganopolsky
General Counsel (Data Privacy)
Macquarie Group

4:20 **What regulators will no longer tolerate by 2027**

The regulatory environment does not stand still, and neither do regulator expectations. This closing session looks ahead to the next phase of enforcement and supervision across Australia's regulatory landscape.

Senior regulator voices examine what behaviours, governance gaps and excuses will no longer be accepted — what regulators expect organisations to already be building, and where enforcement focus is likely to intensify. Each regulator addresses one assumption they believe organisations are still getting wrong, closing the day with clear, actionable insight into what must change.

Katie Miller
Deputy CEO Regulation
AUSTRAC

Emma Rosenzweig
Deputy Commissioner, Payday Super Program
Australian Taxation Office

Moderator

Megan Styles
Barrister,
Victoria Bar

5:00 **MC Close & Prize Draw**

5:10 **Networking beverages and canapes**

6:00 **Event Close**

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Yellow Canary is the leading provider of an automated, AI-powered compliance audit platform. Built for Australian employers and their partners, it detects, quantifies, and diagnoses compliance risk across pay, Modern Awards, enterprise agreements, superannuation, and long service leave. Through historical and ongoing audits, Yellow Canary helps organisations reduce human error, strengthen governance, and prevent costly compliance breaches before they escalate.

Exhibitors

MCO's compliance management platform helps companies worldwide reduce risk and manage regulatory obligations. Its unified SaaS suite automates global compliance programs on a single system, covering employee, transaction, third-party, and obligations management. Available as a full suite or à la carte, MCO enables firms to streamline workflows, standardise compliance, and demonstrate proactive risk management quickly and cost-effectively.

GRC Solutions is the leading provider of award-winning compliance eLearning to the banking and financial services industry. Throughout Australia clients rely on our expert, industry-relevant training and technology solutions, including Anti-Money Laundering (AML), Anti-Bribery and Corruption (AB&C), Modern Slavery, Privacy, ESG, and Workplace Behaviours and essential soft skills. We pride ourselves on delivering exceptional service and effective, customisable training that protects and empowers organisations throughout the Asia Pacific.

Nexiant provides Fraud Prevention and Risk Management solutions for regulated and risk-aware organisations globally. Its solutions support customer and business onboarding, identity verification, transaction monitoring and payment fraud prevention, helping teams identify risk earlier, strengthen controls and make more confident decisions.

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MEET THE SPEAKERS

Brendan Thomas
AUSTRAC
CEO

Brendan Thomas commenced his 5-year appointment as AUSTRAC CEO on 29 January 2024, leading Australia's financial intelligence unit and anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regulator. In this role, Brendan represents AUSTRAC on the ACIC Board and the Serious Financial Crime Taskforce CEO Board, and leads agency head-level engagement with the Office of National Intelligence and other National Intelligence Community members.

A Wiradjuri man, Brendan brings significant experience in leading major public services, particularly across the criminal and civil justice systems. Prior to AUSTRAC, he served as Deputy Secretary at the NSW Department of Communities and Justice, CEO of Legal Aid NSW, and Deputy Secretary at the NSW Department of Justice. Brendan holds a Bachelor of Arts from Macquarie University and is a Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand School of Government.

Katie Miller
AUSTRAC
Deputy CEO, Regulation

Katie Miller is the Deputy CEO for Regulation at AUSTRAC and has strategic responsibility for AUSTRAC's regulatory, legal and policy functions. AUSTRAC's regulatory approach is to focus on outcomes and harm reduction using a range of tools to influence and intervene.

Katie has extensive experience exercising regulatory functions and advising regulators in state and federal governments.

Katie is a lawyer by background and training and a published author on issues involving regulation, law and technology.

Luke Irwin
ISSMP, CISSP, CISM
Aegis Cybersecurity

Luke Irwin is the Founder and Principal Consultant of Aegis Cybersecurity, a Brisbane-based cybersecurity consultancy specialising in governance, risk, compliance, and strategic advisory services. He works with organisations across small business, mid-market, regulated, and critical infrastructure environments to help them strengthen security posture, improve resilience, and make better risk-based decisions.

Known for his practical and commercially grounded approach, Luke advises boards, executives, and leadership teams on cybersecurity strategy, vendor risk, third-party assurance, and the application of frameworks such as ISO 27001, Essential Eight, NIST, SOC 2, and sector-specific obligations. His work focuses on turning cybersecurity from a vague technical concern into a structured business risk conversation that leaders can act on.

Luke is a frequent speaker, commentator, and industry contributor, recognised for making complex cybersecurity issues understandable, relevant, and actionable for business audiences. Through his work, he helps organisations cut through noise, challenge poor practice, and build security programs that are defensible, proportionate, and aligned to business objectives.

Adam Frod
IAPP
Managing Director, ANZ

Adam Ford leads the IAPP in the ANZ region. With the support of the global IAPP team, this role embeds Adam amongst a rapidly growing community of over 95,000 organizational and individual members with privacy, Ai governance and digital responsibility at the core of their responsibilities.

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Jack Morgan
FinTech Australia
Head of Policy

Jack Morgan is Head of Policy at FinTech Australia, the peak industry body for the Australian fintech sector, representing more than 400 fintech companies and startups across the country. He leads FinTech Australia's policy and regulatory engagement across areas including payments, digital assets, open banking, AML/CTF reform, digital identity and emerging financial regulation.

Prior to joining FinTech Australia, Jack worked as a commercial litigator and as a policy adviser for another leading financial services industry association, where he advised domestic and international fund managers on regulatory and public policy issues. He also spent six years advising Australian Federal ministers across the Treasury, Finance and Home Affairs portfolios.

Jack regularly engages with Treasury, ASIC, AUSTRAC, the Reserve Bank of Australia and other regulators on major reforms impacting the financial services sector. His work focuses on balancing innovation, competition and consumer protection, while ensuring regulatory settings remain practical, proportionate and supportive of economic growth.

Charlotte Davidson
IDCARE Group
Interim Chief Executive Officer

Charlotte has over 20 years experience across the Australian and NSW governments, including 12 years in cyber security and cybercrime intelligence.

Charlotte was a founding member and executive with the central NSW government cyber function, Cyber Security NSW, leading the state's cyber security strategy and policy. She was Manager of Cybercrime Intelligence at the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission.

Charlotte was awarded a Churchill Fellowship in 2020 to undertake international research on cyber security awareness. She completed an Executive Master of Public Administration in 2022.

Charlotte is a Certified Information Security Manager (CISM), is certified in Governance, Risk and Compliance (CGRC), and has qualifications in accounting, leadership and community development.

Anneliese Cooper
Human Rights Law Centre
Lawyer

Anneliese Cooper is a Lawyer in the Centre's Whistleblower Project where she advises and represents whistleblowers and works to strengthen public interest accountability mechanisms across jurisdictions.

Anneliese is committed to advocating for transparency and accountability and supporting her clients through the complexities of complaints, investigations, and litigation.

Izabel Greco
TAL
General Manager - Prudential, Governance & Accountability

Izabel Greco is General Manager – Prudential, Governance & Accountability at TAL, Australia's leading life insurers. With over a decade of experience in risk management and compliance across financial services, she leads TAL's prudential risk, regulatory governance, and accountability frameworks — including the Financial Accountability Regime and enterprise-wide risk management under APRA's prudential standards. Izabel led TAL's implementation of CPS 230, driving the uplift of operational risk and resilience practices across the organisation.

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Prof. Vivienne Brand
Professor of Corporate Law, **Flinders University,** Non-Executive Director

Vivienne Brand is a Professor at Flinders University Law School, researching & teaching in corporate law and governance. She has broad cross-sectoral governance experience as a non-executive director including on for-purpose, for-profit (listed & unlisted) and regulatory boards, including as a Chair of an Audit & Risk Committee.

Vivienne is a Deputy Chair of the Law Council of Australia's Corporations Committee and a General Editor of the Australian Journal of Corporate Law.

Rachel Poo
QBE Insurance
Head of Group Statutory Reporting and Accounting Policy

Rachel Poo is Head of Group Statutory Reporting & Accounting Policy at QBE Insurance Group, where she leads the Group's external reporting function, including financial and sustainability reporting. A chartered accountant with over 10 years of experience across London and Sydney, Rachel has extensive experience in financial reporting, technical accounting and sustainability reporting. Prior to joining QBE, Rachel worked in assurance and advisory services at Deloitte. Rachel led the implementation and preparation of QBE's first climate-related disclosures under Australia's mandatory climate reporting regime and works closely with senior executives, boards and auditors on financial and sustainability reporting matters.

Andrew Hottes
CEO - ISO4 FBCS CITP
ISO 27001 & 42001 Lead Auditor

Andrew Hottes is a technology, cybersecurity and AI governance Leader with more than 25 years of national and international experience spanning financial services, technology and education. He has led large-scale digital transformation programs across Australia, the United Kingdom, Hong Kong and the United States, delivering enterprise technology strategies, cloud migrations, cybersecurity uplift initiatives and complex organisational change programs.

Andrew is widely recognised for his work in governance, information security and emerging technologies. He led the Australian-first independent school certification to ISO 27001 and subsequently guided the achievement of what is believed to be the world's first school certification to ISO 42001 (Artificial Intelligence Management Systems) in December 2025.

A Fellow of the British Computer Society (FBCS) and Chartered IT Professional (CITP), Andrew is also an ISO 27001 Lead Auditor, ISO 42001 Lead Auditor and ISC2 Information Security Management Professional (ISSMP). He is a multiple-time CIO50 and CSO30 honouree and was named Education Technology Leader of the Year in 2025.

Andrew advises boards, executive teams and organisations on cybersecurity, AI governance, digital strategy, risk management and technology-enabled transformation. His work focuses on helping organisations harness innovation safely while building resilient, secure and well-governed digital environments.

Prof. James Curran
University of Sydney, Australian Financial Review

James Curran is Professor of Modern History at the University of Sydney. He was formerly International Editor at the Australian Financial Review and is the author of a number of books and articles on Australian foreign policy, including for Foreign Affairs and Foreign Policy. His next book Grand Ambition: Paul Keating's Global Vision for Australia is published by Simon & Schuster next month.

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Jamal Waqar
Standards Australia
Head of Research, Experience, Data and Analytics

Jamal Waqar is Head of Research, Experience, Data and Analytics at Standards Australia, where he leads multidisciplinary teams delivering insights that inform policy, industry, and regulatory decision-making. He specialises in data governance, AI strategy, and the development of standards that enable safe, trusted, and interoperable systems across emerging technologies.

Jamal has led national and international initiatives spanning data-centric AI, environmental data standards, quantum technologies, and critical infrastructure. His work focuses on translating complex technical and regulatory challenges into practical frameworks that support regulators and industry alike.

He is an active contributor to global standards development and frequently engages with government, industry, and international bodies to shape the future of responsible technology adoption.

Gavin D.Coles
OFX
Global Sanctions Officer

Gavin has concentrated on the specialist field of financial crime for over 25 years, living and working in locations as diverse as the UK, Hong Kong, Australia, and the United States. Major roles included the Global AML & Sanctions function for National Australia Bank; providing consultant services on AML and Sanctions for EY in Australia and the UK; AML officer for the Bank of New York in London; and working as part of a UK Cabinet Office team designing anti-laundering policy recommendations that resulted in the Proceeds of Crime Act.

After a long stint in post as Global Head of AML for Citi Private Bank based out of New York, he moved back to Australia to run his own consultancy, helping a range of national and international clients with AML, Sanctions, and financial crime risk challenges; he's worked with many government agencies across the world on both individual investigations and strategic issues.

Since 2024 he has been the Global Sanctions Officer at OFX, an ASX listed international payment services, FX solutions, and automation company - if you want to talk sanctions controls, buy him a coffee!

Emma Rosenzweig
Australian Taxation Office
Deputy Commissioner, Payday Super Program

Emma Rosenzweig is the Deputy Commissioner and Senior Accountable Officer for the Payday Super Program, within the Australian Taxation Office.
Emma is responsible for delivering this transformational program, which will result in greater certainty that the superannuation entitlements of millions of people are paid correctly and on time.

Emma has worked for the ATO for over 25 years in a range of roles across nearly all areas of the organisation, including client engagement roles focused on small business and employers, law roles including the design and drafting of legislation, and leadership of the ATO's service strategy design and implementation.

Emma holds a Bachelor of Laws, a Bachelor of Commerce and a Masters of Tax.

Hugh Watson
Australian Sanctions Office
Assistant Secretary

Hugh Watson is Assistant Secretary of the Australian Sanctions Office (ASO) within the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). The ASO is the Australian Government's sanctions regulator, responsible for administering Australia's sanctions laws and promoting and enforcing compliance. Hugh brings extensive senior leadership experience across DFAT, with roles spanning cyber and critical technology, international law and multilateral engagement. His career includes leading Australia's climate negotiations at COP26, directing multilateral human rights policy during Australia's term on the UN Human Rights Council, and serving as a disarmament and international law negotiator in Geneva.

Australian Regulatory Summit 2026

Regulation under pressure: enforcement, accountability and the new risk frontier

20 August
Four Seasons Hotel Sydney

MEET THE SPEAKERS

Kara Nicholls
Impact Governance
Founder & Managing Director

Kara Nicholls is the Founder and Managing Director of Impact Governance, where she advises organisations on governance, ESG, and emerging risk across complex regulatory environments. With over 25 years of boardroom experience, she brings deep expertise across financial services, government, and social enterprise.

Kara currently serves as Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee at the NSW Rural Fire Service, Chair of the ESG Advisory Council at Blackwattle Investment Partners, and Non-Executive Director at Ripple Learning, alongside multiple advisory and committee roles.

A trusted boardroom advisor and governance specialist, Kara is known for aligning risk, culture, and accountability with strategic objectives to deliver practical, sustainable outcomes.

Jason Masters
FAICD PFIIA
Non Executive Director, Audit, Risk, and Governance leader

Jason Masters is Managing Director of a boutique management consulting firm focusing on integrity of commercial transactions, an independent board member covering a wide number of industries from financial services, medical regulations, pharmaceutical startups, cemeteries and corporate giving programs. He also chairs numerous audit and risk committees for government agencies. He is a Fellow and a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He is also a Professional Fellow of the Institute of Internal Auditors (Australia). He previously co-authored the international landmark research book "Computer Security in Australia" and is the Managing Editor of a new journal, the Journal of Community Applied Research.

Megan Styles
Victoria Bar
Barrister

Megan accepts briefs in a broad range of matters. She has a particular interest in matters involving asset tracing, proceeds of crime/asset confiscation, financial crime investigations, AML/CTF legislation, disclosure issues, law enforcement, bankruptcy and insolvency law and mortgage disputes. Megan regularly advises and appears in matters involving state and federal agencies, corporations, law enforcement bodies and financial institutions, in a variety of courts and tribunals.

Ramanathan Karuppiah

Financial Crime Compliance Specialist & Certified Auditor

Ramanathan Karuppiah is a financial crime prevention and compliance leader with extensive experience spanning financial services, payments, risk management, auditing, and regulatory compliance. He serves as Executive Director, AMLCO, and Responsible Manager of Fly Wallet Pty Ltd, Principal Program Manager at Mastercard, and Principal Auditor at Financial Crime Audits Pty Ltd.

Ramanathan is a Fellow of Public Accountants Australia, a Fellow of the International Compliance Association (ICA), Member of Australian Institute of Company Directors (MAICD) and a Certified Advanced CAMS-Auditor. He is widely recognized for his expertise in anti-money laundering (AML), counter-terrorism financing (CTF), financial crime risk management, governance, and regulatory compliance.

A passionate academic researcher, Ramanathan has contributed to advancing industry knowledge in financial crime prevention and has worked closely with Griffith University in establishing its Centre of Excellence for Financial Crime Prevention. His unique blend of industry leadership, audit expertise, and academic engagement positions him at the forefront of efforts to combat financial crime and strengthen compliance frameworks globally.

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Olga Ganopolsky
Macquarie Group
General Counsel
(Data Privacy)

Olga Ganopolsky is General Counsel – Privacy and Data at Macquarie Group, overseeing data and privacy across the 32 jurisdictions in which Macquarie operates. A seasoned privacy and regulatory lawyer, Olga's experience spans compliance framework development, data breach advisory, class action defence, credit reporting, and complex cross-border commercial transactions involving data.

She has been actively involved in Australian and international law reform, including Privacy Act Tranche 1, the SOCI Act, and the EU AI Act. Olga chairs the Law Council's Business Law Privacy Committee and the NSW Law Society Privacy and Data Committee, and is a member of the OECD Working Party on Cross-Border Data Transfers.

Reiko Mori
Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation
Executive Officer and Deputy Head of Asia Pacific

Reiko Mori is an Executive Officer at Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) and Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group (SMFG), one of the three largest financial institutions in Japan. Since May 2025, she has served as the Deputy Head of the Asia Pacific Division, based in Singapore. She is overseeing sustainability in the region.

Prior to her current role, she was the Head of the Global Financial Institutions Group in Tokyo, leading a global team responsible for managing relationships with major non-Japanese financial institutions.

With over 30 years of experience in the banking industry, Reiko has held diverse roles including Investor Relations at SMFG, where she engaged with global institutional investors on various initiatives to enhance corporate value, as well as Credit and Industry Research at the Corporate Research Department of SMBC. She began her career in Osaka and has also worked in New York, Tokyo and London.

Reiko holds a Bachelor of Economics degree from Kyoto University.

Simon Mitchell
AICD
Acting Head of Policy

Simon is the Acting Head of Policy in the Education & Policy Leadership team at the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD). He focuses on cyber security, critical infrastructure, data governance, financial services, and how policy and governance developments in these areas impact AICD members. Simon has led the development of key AICD AI, cyber and data governance publications, notably A Director's Guide to AI Governance, and Data Governance Foundations for Boards.

Marcus Zeltzer
Yellow Canary
Founder

Marcus Zeltzer is a leading expert on workforce compliance in Australia. As Founder and Managing Director of Yellow Canary, he helps some of the nation's largest employers manage payroll, superannuation, and industrial obligations through AI-powered and automated compliance audit technology. Under his leadership, Yellow Canary has reviewed more than $100 billion in payroll data and completed over 110 historical wage reviews.

Marcus also serves on the Investment Review Council for Blackwattle Investment Partners, is a member of the Board of Directors for the RegTech Association, and advises the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations on its RegTech roadmap for modern awards. A frequent speaker on compliance, automation, and ESG, Marcus is known for translating complex regulatory challenges into practical, tech-enabled solutions.

Contact us

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Ask me about speaking opportunities

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