Tax, Finance and Risk Forum

Six Compliance Regimes. One Operating Environment. Where Finance, Tax, Risk and Legal Align.
Unifying tax, finance, and risk for the modern boardroom

Wednesday, 21 October 2026 I Sydney I 6.5 hrs CPD

Who should attend

- CFOs, Deputy CFOs & Finance Directors
- Heads of Tax & Tax Directors
- Financial Controllers & Finance Managers
- Chief Risk Officers & Compliance Directors
- General Counsel & Company Secretaries
- CEOs, Managing Directors & COOs
- Heads of Treasury & Treasurers
- Internal Audit & Governance Directors

Advisory board

- Angela Giunta, Group Global Tax Manager, Multiplex
- Olivier Lefevre, CFO, Synergy Fire & Security
- Alan Connor, Director Risk Consulting, Grant Thornton
- Benjamin Di Marco, Cyber and Technology Risk Specialist, WTW

Agenda

8:20 AM Registration open

8:55 AM

Opening remarks by the MC

9:00 AM KEYNOTE

Navigating the new financial landscape:
Monetary transmission, market liquidity, and systemic risk

This session will explore the transmission of monetary policy through Australia's financial markets and the broader implications for financial system stability. As corporate Australia navigates higher-for-longer borrowing costs, this session will provide crucial insights into credit conditions, the health of the financial system, and the emerging risks that boardrooms and CFOs must manage.

- How higher interest rates are flowing through corporate debt markets, and the current state of liquidity and capital access for Australian businesses
- An assessment of stress points in the Australian financial system, commercial real estate, and the resilience of corporate balance sheets
- How global financial market trends are impacting the cost and availability of funding for Australian enterprises

Agenda is subject to change.

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9:40 AM **Economist Panel**

The gatekeeper's new burden: Navigating Australia's AML/CTF Tranche 2 reforms

Australia's long-awaited AML/CTF Tranche 2 reforms are no longer a distant prospect—they are a boardroom reality. As these obligations extend to “gatekeeper professions” by including corporate lawyers, accountants, trust providers, and real estate professionals—the regulatory net has widened dramatically.
For corporate finance and legal departments, this means implementing rigorous "Know Your Customer" (KYC) protocols, transaction monitoring, and reporting systems previously reserved for major financial institutions. This session unpacks the operational reality of Tranche 2 compliance, the cost of implementation, and how to avoid catastrophic penalties while maintaining business velocity.

- Are You a "Gatekeeper"? Identifying exactly which corporate transactions, advisory services, and legal setups now trigger AML/CTF reporting requirements.
- How to build scalable KYC and source-of-wealth verification pipelines without grinding deals to a halt.
- Silo Busting: Aligning the Chief Risk Officer, General Counsel, and Tax Director to ensure seamless, audit-ready compliance reporting.
- Lessons from AUSTRAC's enforcement history and what "non-compliance" actually costs a brand in 2026.


Diana Mousina
Deputy Chief Economist, **AMP**


Johnathan McMenamin
Head of Economic Forecasts, Principal, **Barrenjoey**

10:20 AM

The gatekeeper's new burden: Navigating Australia's AML/CTF Tranche 2 reforms

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Alan Connor
Director Risk Consulting, **Grant Thornton**

10:50 AM Networkinig Morning Tea

11:30 AM **KEYNOTE**

CGT and its impact on Australia’s fledging productivity

Australia is facing a structural productivity crisis, yet recent policy shifts threaten to make the path to recovery even more challenging. Internal modelling from the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) reveals a worrying trend: changes to the Capital Gains Tax (CGT) regime are set to drive up the cost of business investment, lifting the hurdle rates for new projects and capital deployment. This vital keynote will dissect the friction between current tax policy and Australia's urgent need for productivity growth.

- Unpacking RBA’s internal findings on how CGT changes directly increase the user cost of capital for businesses
- How will these tax changes alter the risk-reward equation for corporate investments
- Long-term consequences for innovation and economic dynamism

Agenda is subject to change.

12:10 AM **KEYNOTE**

The global tax revolution: Navigating OECD Pillar Two and the future of corporate tax

The implementation of OECD Pillar Two marks the most significant rewrite of international tax rules in a generation, forcing multinational organisations to completely rethink their tax strategies. This session will demystify the complexities of the 15% global minimum tax and explore its profound, cross-functional impact on tax compliance, financial reporting, and enterprise risk. This session will explore practical strategies for navigating these new regulations, managing data challenges, and aligning tax, finance, and risk functions to thrive in this new era of global tax transparency.

- Understand the critical mechanics of the GloBE rules, including transitional safe harbors, substance-based income exclusions, and top-up tax calculations.
- Learn how to address the massive data collection, system integration, and accounting challenges required for compliance and financial disclosure.
- Identify the risk management implications of Pillar Two on corporate structures, M&A activity, and long-term investment strategies.
- Discover best practices for breaking down silos between tax, finance, and risk teams to ensure unified governance and reporting.

Simon Staples
Assistant Director, **Corporate Tax Association**

12:50 PM Networking Lunch

1:30 PM **PANEL DISCUSSION**

From complexity to clarity—global tax, treasury, and risk governance under scrutiny

Navigating today's hyper-transparent global landscape requires more than simply reacting to regulatory change—it demands a unified, board-level strategy across tax, treasury, risk, and legal. As organisations scale across jurisdictions, they face a dual challenge: managing unprecedented scrutiny from global tax authorities (such as the ATO) while defending against sophisticated operational threats and technological disruption.
In this session, senior finance, tax, and risk leaders from leading multinational and ASX-listed organisations share their real-world playbooks for simplifying complexity. The panel will explore how to build resilient, cross-functional operating models; translate technical tax and treasury risks into commercial language for the Board; and leverage modern data architectures to move from reactive compliance to strategic, proactive decision-making.

- Cross-Functional Synergy at the Top: How Heads of Tax, General Counsel, Treasurers, and Chief Risk Officers are breaking down silos to identify, escalate, and mitigate high-stakes risks before they reach the Board.
- Leading Through Intense Scrutiny: Practical lessons from the front lines of large corporate audits and ATO interactions—balancing commercial objectives with the demands of transparency and "good corporate citizenship."
- Speaking the Board's Language: Effective frameworks for translating complex tax uncertainty, regulatory changes, and technology investment needs into strategic narratives that resonate with the CEO, CFO, and Audit Committee.
- Modernising the Foundation (Beyond the Spreadsheet): Integrating tax, finance, and data strategies to improve reporting accuracy, operational visibility, and agility across cross-border operations.
- Governing AI & Mitigating Emerging Threats.
- Establishing governance, auditability, and ethical guardrails around AI-driven tax and finance decision-making.
- Defending treasury operations against AI-powered payment fraud, deepfakes, and Business Email Compromise (BEC) without paralysing business velocity.

Angela Giunta
Group Global Tax Manager, **Multiplex**

Agenda is subject to change.

2:10 PM **KEYNOTE**

The human & digital perimeter: Privacy Act overhauls, identity risk & executive liability

With sweeping Privacy Act reforms, direct rights of action, and surging identity-based cyber-attacks, data governance has shifted from an IT challenge to an acute executive liability. This session examines the collision of deepfake/credential threats with Australia's incoming regulatory landscape, offering actionable strategies to defensibly govern identity, streamline data retention, and protect leadership from regulatory enforcement and litigation.

- The Privacy Act Overhaul: Navigating the practical impacts of incoming reforms—including individual rights to sue (direct right of action), the statutory tort for privacy breaches, and stricter definitions of consent.
- Identity as the New Attack Vector: How credential theft, synthetic identities, and AI-driven impersonation/deepfakes are bypassing legacy defenses to trigger major corporate breaches.
- Resolving the tension between statutory record-keeping mandates and the legal risks of "holding too much data for too long."
- What regulators (OAIC, ASIC) and courts expect from GCs, CISOs, and boards when testing "reasonable steps" taken to protect personal information.
- Managing upstream and downstream identity risks, vendor contract terms, and shared liability in the event of an external SaaS or supplier breach.

Benjamin Di Marco
Cyber and Technology Risk Specialist, **WTW**

2:50 PM **FIRESIDE CHAT**

What happens when AI goes wrong? Managing liability, cyber, legal and business risks

Across industries, generative AI, orchestrated systems and large language models are changing how businesses curate data, develop products, make decisions, support customers and automate processes. Modern AI systems have repeatedly proved brittle, exposing organisations to wide-ranging risks, including unreliable outputs, cyber incidents, data loss, operational failures, and critical dependencies. This creates a dilemma for business leaders: understanding and managing the consequences when AI systems fail.

This session will examine the practical risks associated with current AI tools and the ways in which those tools can fail. Drawing on emerging regulation and case studies, it will then consider the resulting harms and liability exposures. It will also inform leaders of the key questions that will help them assess whether their organisations are adequately prepared to manage a major AI-related incident.
Key topics that will be examined include:

- Who is likely to be responsible when AI systems cause loss, and how liability is likely to be apportioned between the business, its leaders and third-party suppliers.
- The key business risks most affected, including cyber incidents, financial fraud, operational disruption, and technology resilience.
- How laws are likely to address emerging issues such as model hallucinations, data leakage, privacy breaches, and risk management requirements.
- What good incident response and recovery look like when AI systems fail.
- Practical recommendations on how to identify, assess, govern, and respond to critical AI system exposures.

3:10 PM Afternoon Tea

3:40 PM KEYNOTE

From PR to the balance sheet: Operationalising mandatory ESG & climate reporting

This session focuses on AASB (Australian Accounting Standards Board) mandatory climate disclosures and the direct financial, tax, and risk implications of sustainability.
Audit-ready ESG: Aligning financial data, green tax incentives, and climate risk disclosures for the AASB era.
ESG has officially transitioned from the sustainability report to the annual financial audit. With mandatory climate-related financial disclosures now legally enforced in Australia, CFOs and finance leaders are legally accountable for the accuracy of their Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions data and climate risk assessments.
This is no longer a marketing exercise—it is a rigorous, data-driven financial reporting requirement with severe penalties for greenwashing. This session explores how leading organisations are bridging the gap between sustainability and finance, leveraging green tax incentives, and building audit-ready ESG data pipelines that satisfy both the board and the regulator.

- How to structure corporate balance sheets and financial statements to comply with mandatory climate disclosures.
- Scope 3 and the Supply Chain: The financial and operational realities of gathering reliable carbon data from external vendors.
- Navigating carbon taxes, capturing government green incentives, and understanding the tax implications of sustainability initiatives.
- Mitigating "Greenwashing" Litigation: How risk officers and finance leaders can audit sustainability claims to protect the business from regulatory action and class-action lawsuits.

4:20 PM THE SPREADSHEET CONFESSIONAL

An open-mic peer circle on operational tax risk and legacy tech

No slides, no scripts, and strictly under Chatham House Rules. This is your chance to step up to the mic, share your frustrations, and hear how your peers are surviving the tax data deluge. While everyone talks about "digital transformation," the reality in most finance departments is a fragile web of legacy excel spreadsheets and manual workarounds. But with the ATO demanding data lineage and Public CbC reporting looming, the margins for error have hit zero. Guided by a facilitator, this interactive, open-mic circle is a raw, honest discussion for CFOs, Tax Directors, and Risk Officers to share their compliance horror stories, debate the "build vs. buy" technology dilemma, and exchange practical strategies for modernising tax operations.

4:50 PM Conference close

Contact us

If you have any questions or require any further information, please feel free to contact ***eventsanz@thomsonreuters.com****. We would be delighted to assist you.*

Ask me about speaking opportunities

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