LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE 2026

Friday 23 October 2026
Adelaide Convention Centre

Norman Waterhouse

Registration
Options

FULL DAY

EARLY BIRD
$480.00pp inc GST
*Sale ends 31 July 2026

STANDARD
$545.00pp inc GST

Inclusions:

- Arrival Tea & Coffee
- Morning Tea
- Lunch
- Networking Drinks & Canapés
- Sessions 1 - 4 of selected stream

HALF DAY
(morning)

EARLY BIRD
$310.00pp inc GST
*Sale ends 31 July 2026

STANDARD
$350.00pp inc GST

Inclusions:

- Arrival Tea & Coffee
- Morning Tea
- Lunch
- Sessions 1 & 2 of selected stream

HALF DAY
(afternoon)

EARLY BIRD
$310.00pp inc GST
*Sale ends 31 July 2026

STANDARD
$350.00pp inc GST

Inclusions:

- Arrival Tea & Coffee
- Networking Drinks & Canapés
- Sessions 3 & 4 of selected stream

GROUP DISCOUNT
(8+ people)

Please email m@normans.com.au to confirm your group booking
Group tickets are not limited to one stream

EARLY BIRD *Sale ends 31 July 2026
Full Day only
$450.00pp inc GST

STANDARD
Full Day only
$520.00pp inc GST

Conference Policies

Registration Eligibility
Norman Waterhouse reserves the right to decline a registration.

Photo Permission
By registering for this event, you accept the possibility that your photograph/video may be taken, and the content used or shared by Norman Waterhouse for promotional and educational purposes. If you do not agree to this use, please email a request to m@normans.com.au.

Cancellation Policy
Whilst Norman Waterhouse accepts the inevitability of changing circumstances, cancelled registrations incur costs. Therefore, the following cancellation policy applies:

Cancellation Received	Refund
More than 3 weeks prior to event	100%
Between 3 weeks and 1 week prior to event	50%
Within 1 week of the event	None

Substitutions are preferred and will best support your attendees.
For more information on our Terms & Conditions, please visit: normans.com.au

Where to go
Location

Entrance

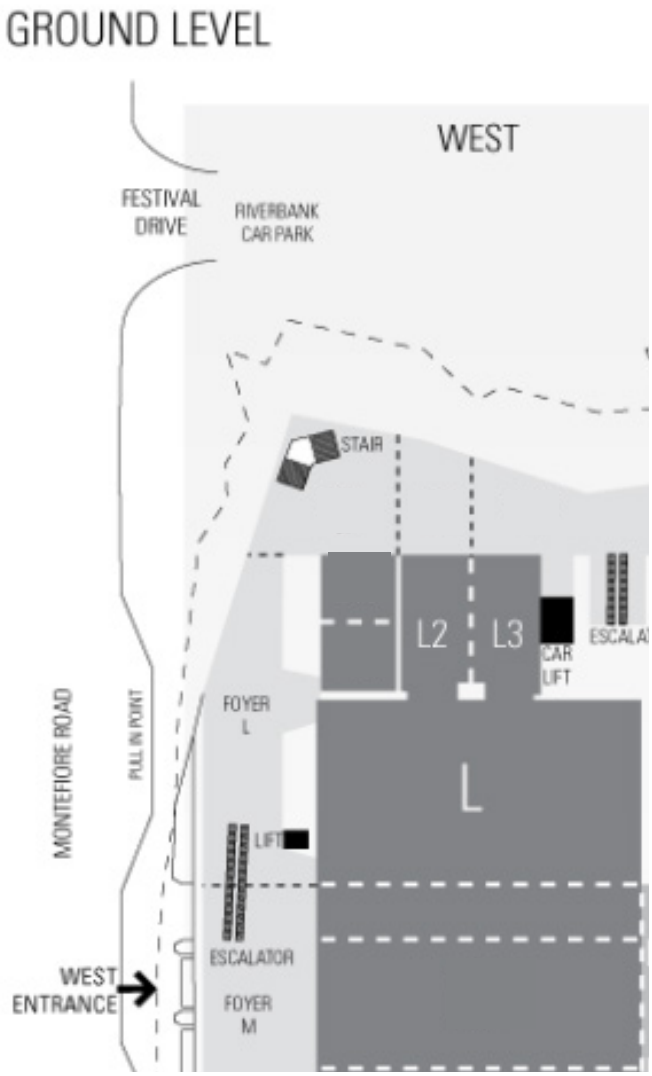
Conference sessions will be held on the Ground Level, with registrations located in Foyer L.

Attendees may enter via the West Entrance (Montefiore road) or Central Entrance (main entrance via North Terrace)

Parking

Information on parking can be viewed here

Conference Rooms



Planning, Development & Environment
location: Hall L

Employment, Governance & Regulatory Services
location: L3 room

Commercial, Property, Infrastructure & Disputes
location: L2 room

Session 5: Keynote Speaker
All streams to merge
location: Hall L

Planning, Development & Environment
Agenda

SESSION 1: Keynote speaker

Keynote speaker: **Nari Chandler**, Deputy Coordinator General Department of the Premier and Cabinet

All streams to merge in Hall L for this session.

SESSION 2: Case Law Review

This year's case law review will cover all of the relevant ERD and Supreme Court decisions in the last 12 months, including topics such as enforcing Land Management Agreements in the context of a subsequent inconsistent development authorisation; prosecutions for unlawful building work and tree-damaging activity; the assessment of car parking rates; existing use rights; the locational suitability of a place of worship; service station complexes; sovereign citizens; characterising the nature of development, fire bunkers; joinder; challenges to SCAP decision-making; and swimming pool safety provisions.

Presented by: *Principals* ***Gavin Leydon, Peter Psaltis, Rebecca McAulay & Aden Miegel****, Senior Associate* ***Nicholas Munday,*** *Associate* ***Stephan Koefer*** *and* ***Lydia Hart*** *and Solicitor* ***Cayleigh Stock***

SESSION 3 and 4: Case Law Review

Case law review continued...

Presented by: *Principals* ***Gavin Leydon, Peter Psaltis, Rebecca McAulay & Aden Miegel****, Senior Associate* ***Nicholas Munday,*** *Associate* ***Stephan Koefer*** *and* ***Lydia Hart*** *and Solicitor* ***Cayleigh Stock***

SESSION 5: Case Law Review - Part 4 and Q&A

Case law review continued...

This will be followed by a Q&A with our Principals where they will discuss some of the key issues from those cases and their experiences over the last 12 months and answer any burning questions from participants.

SESSION 6: Concluding Remarks

Keynote speaker: **Victoria MacKirdy**, Chief Executive Officer of LGA South Australia

All streams to merge in Hall L for this session.

Employment, Governance & Regulatory Services
Agenda

SESSION 1: Keynote speaker

Keynote speaker: **Nari Chandler**, Deputy Coordinator General Department of the Premier and Cabinet

All streams to merge in Hall L for this session.

SESSION 2: Case Law Review

Join the Norman Waterhouse Local Government Employment, Governance and Regulatory Services Teams as we explore recent significant and important developments in case law impacting on how employment, governance and regulatory professionals undertake their roles.

There has been substantial case law development in this area over the last twelve months, and particular focus will be given to a variety of cases concerning:

- work health and safety;
- elected member roles and functions;
- elected member behavioural management;
- administrative law decision making; and
- regulatory enforcement obligations

Presented by: *Principals* ***Sathish Dasan, Paul Kelly, Felice D'Agostino, Dale Mazzachi and*** *Special Counsel* ***Chris Alexandrides***

SESSION 3 and 4: Case Law Review

Case law review continued...

Presented by: *Principals* ***Sathish Dasan, Paul Kelly, Felice D'Agostino, Dale Mazzachi and*** *Special Counsel* ***Chris Alexandrides***

SESSION 5: Q&A

This will be followed by a Q&A with our practitioners where they will discuss some of the key issues from over the last 12 months and answer any burning questions from participants.

SESSION 6: Concluding remarks

Keynote speaker: **Victoria MacKirdy**, Chief Executive Officer of LGA South Australia

All streams to merge in Hall L for this session.

Commercial, Property, Infrastructure & Disputes
Agenda

SESSION 1: Keynote speaker

Keynote speaker: **Nari Chandler,** Deputy Coordinator General Department of the Premier and Cabinet

All streams to merge in Hall L for this session.

SESSION 2: Major project structuring - tenure, contracts and financing

This session will explore options for structuring major projects involving land, and how structuring choices set the trajectory for the project. It will examine different tenure options and key contractual frameworks that can be used to allocate rights and obligations between the parties. It will also touch on how tenure and contractual arrangements can interact with financing of a project, security, step in rights, and ongoing accounting treatments.

Throughout, the seminar will highlight the advantages and disadvantages of alternative structures and demonstrate how, in practice, every element of a major project flows from the initial structuring decisions.

Presented by: *Principal* ***Yari McCall***

SESSION 3: Strategic assets and infrastructure (water + wastewater + energy + waste) - procurement and contract management tactics

As growth pressures intensify across South Australia, essential services and infrastructure delivery are increasingly becoming a critical constraint on housing, investment and regional development. Communities, developers and industry are looking to councils to do more than regulate growth, they are looking to the local government sector to step up and help unlock it.

This session will explore the evolving role of local government in coordinating and facilitating strategic infrastructure outcomes across the water, wastewater, energy and waste sectors. We will examine the growing role councils are playing in infrastructure planning and growth, emerging delivery models, regional collaboration approaches, changing market conditions, and associated governance and regulatory issues faced by councils.

Presented by: *Principal* ***Kane Robson*** *and Associate* ***James Last***

SESSION 4: Commercial disputes - current landscape and lessons

Join our Commercial Dispute Resolution team as we examine the current commercial dispute landscape affecting local government and explore key lessons arising from recent matters and developments.

This session will provide practical insights into common issues facing councils, approaches to managing disputes effectively, and broader risk management considerations for local government.

Presented by: *Principal* ***Vas Marinos*** *and Associates* ***Chelsea Chieng & James Norris***

SESSION 5: Major projects, strategic infrastructure, and commercial disputes - common threads, opportunities and challenges Q&A

With over 30 years' experience in commercial projects within the local government sector, Sean Keenihan has lived through multiple cycles of growth, reform and renewal. Change, adaptation and innovation are the only constants. In this session, Sean will take the Chair to draw together the key themes and threads from the day's discussions, and facilitate a wide-ranging, practical and interactive Q&A to conclude this stream.

Presented by: *Principal* ***Sean Keenihan***

SESSION 6: Concluding Remarks

Keynote speaker: **Victoria MacKirdy**, Chief Executive Officer of LGA South Australia

All streams to merge in Hall L for this session.

Conference Schedule

9:00am	**MORNING REGISTRATION**
9:30am	**WELCOME**
9:45am	Session 1 - Keynote Speaker All streams to be merged in Hall L
10:30am	**MORNING TEA**
11:00am	Session 2
12:00pm	Session 3
12:45pm	**LUNCH**
1:15pm	**AFTERNOON REGISTRATION**
1:30pm	Session 4
2:30pm	Session 5
3:15pm	**BREAK** - All streams to merge in to Hall L
3:25pm	Session 6 - Concluding Remarks All streams to be merged in Hall L
3:45pm	**NETWORKING / REFRESHMENTS**