

CHAIR



Stephen Langton, LangtonHudsonButcher, Auckland

Stephen is a partner in LangtonHudsonButcher, Lawyers, a specialist employment law and industrial relations firm. He has been involved in a number of significant cases in this area, is a member of the NZLS Employment Law Committee, and a regular contributor to Law Society and industry conferences.

SPEAKERS



Richard Allen, Richard Allen Law, Auckland

Richard has been practising for 32 years first in Dunedin and then Auckland, primarily in the smaller commercial area of law, completing sale and purchases of small to medium businesses, shopping malls, commercial and residential properties, undertaking lease negotiations, drafting large shopping mall leases, business structures, finance, trust structuring and corporate trusteeships.



Henry Brandts-Giesen, Senior Associate, Kensington Swan, Auckland

Henry is an experienced corporate and commercial lawyer and has a strong understanding of fiduciary risk having acted for both institutional and private trustees in numerous major transactions in New Zealand and overseas. He is one of a few lawyers in NZ to have experience and expertise in the new reporting regimes (FATCA and the Common reporting Standard) to which financial institutions are now subject.



Theresa Donnelly, Ministry of Social Development, Auckland

Theresa is a Senior Solicitor with the Ministry of Social Development and is a specialist in Social Security law. She graduated from Auckland University in 1991 and has worked in several private practice litigation areas as well as in-house counsel within the public sector. Theresa took employment as a senior solicitor for the Ministry of Social Policy in 2000 (subsequently MSD). She has presented webinars and seminars for a variety of professional groups including the ADLSi and NZLS CLE.



Alison Gilbert, Brookfields, Auckland

Alison is a key member of Brookfields' Trust and Management Services Team. She provides specialist legal advice on estate planning, the establishment and management of trusts and related asset management structures, relationship property and elder law. Alison is a member of the Minister of Justice's reference group on the reform of the law of trusts. She is the chair of the New Zealand branch of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners, which is the principal professional body for trust and estate practitioners worldwide. She is also the secretary and a trustee of the Life Education Trust South East Auckland. Alison is also the lead author of Lexis Nexis Law of Succession - Practical Guidelines.

SPEAKERS



Nicola Harrison, Glaister Ennor, Auckland

Nicola looks after commercial property investors and developers, government entities, incorporated societies, commercial landlords, NZ-wide franchisors and various high profile SMEs. With over 16 years' experience in NZ and the UK, she takes a holistic approach to client's requests, anticipating their needs and always tailoring advice, agreements and strategies in a way that meets their goals, deals with their internal requirements and puts in place strategies for streamlining work and revenue flows. Nicola works closely with Stephanie Harris, Joint Managing Partner, and they ensure that the commercial goal is kept foremost in mind and achieved in the most time and cost effective manner possible.



Tammy McLeod, Davenports Harbour, Auckland

Tammy is a director at Davenports Harbour and a trust and asset structuring specialist. She specialises in the areas of personal asset planning, trust law and Property (Relationships) Act. She enjoys providing clients with advice and assistance on a broad range of issues involving the structuring and establishment of asset plans, interpretation of trust deeds, duties of trustees and the management and administration of trusts. Tammy is a past president of the Auckland Woman Lawyers' Association and is a current co-convenor of the NZICA Trust Special Interest Group. She is also a member of the ADLSi CLE committee and has presented a number of seminars in the areas of trusts and asset structuring.



Neil Russ, Buddle Findlay, Auckland

Neil is a partner in Buddle Findlay's tax practice and has over 25 years' experience as a tax and finance practitioner in England and New Zealand. He is an expert in all New Zealand taxes, and has extensive experience advising banks, New Zealand and foreign corporates, funds and other investors on cross-border and domestic transactions. Neil is the Convenor of the NZLS Tax Law Committee.



Andrew Schirnack, LangtonHudsonButcher, Auckland

Andrew is a partner at LangtonHudsonButcher. He has experience over a broad range of employment law issues, acting for clients in employment-related disputes at all levels, from mediation to Court of Appeal level. Andrew also acts in an advisory capacity for clients across a range of sectors, including the New Zealand Drug Detection Agency and its clients.

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