

IWA CORPORATE GOVERNANCE & LEGAL SIG MEETING AGENDA



Date	Time	Location
Thursday 19 November 2026	9am – 2pm	RACV City Club 501 Bourke St, Melbourne, Victoria, 3000
Minute taker	Rotating – one per session, request at the start of the day	
SIG Purpose	To provide a forum for sharing information, networking and professional development on governance issues, trends and best practice in the Victorian water industry	
Acknowledgement of Country	We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands from which we are each joining this meeting. We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present and recognise their role in managing the lands' resources over thousands of years. We acknowledge them, and their continued connection to place, as we go about managing water resources today.	

Time	Agenda Item	Presenter
Wednesday 19 Nov 12-5pm	AGM & Half Day Conference	Theme: Leading Through the Utility Revolution The Victorian water sector is navigating significant change as the utility revolution accelerates. Rising costs, climate pressures, political uncertainty, technological innovation and increasing expectations around affordability, sustainability and performance are reshaping the operating environment. This conference will explore how water corporations can strengthen resilience, improve performance and continue delivering value for customers and communities while responding to ongoing transformation.
Wednesday 19 Nov 6pm	Conference dinner	
Arrive 9am for 9.30am start 9:30 to 9:45 (15 mins)	Welcome Acknowledgement of country, agenda overview, confirmation of minute takers, previous minutes ratification	Tim Scholtes, Westernport Water



9:45 to 10:00 (15 mins)	Getting to know you Icebreaker exercise	What we have in common, connection ice breaker
10:00 to 10:20 (20 mins)	DEECA update	Updates from the Governance team and emerging issues. • Statement of Obligations update • Financial Reporting Directions (FRDs) updates
10:20 to 11:00: (40 mins) 10:30 -10:45 Short 15 min break to fuel up	Round the grounds including BREAK - Morning tea	Break into smaller groups; discuss what is keeping you up at night.
11:00-11:45 (45 mins)	Internal audit: how to harness the most value from auditors RSM Australia, Jean-Marc Imbert and Linda Lim	An update on: • industry trends and emerging areas of risk for water corporations • what your audit/risk/finance committee should be considering • how to optimise the relationship and outputs of auditors. This will be followed by a discussion on what providers are being used, oversight of risk rating and actions, resources to address low risk findings and how to optimise reporting.
11:45 to 12:30 (45 mins)	Panel: Governance the good, the bad, the ugly • IBAC • VPSC • Michael Gorton AM	Drawing on recent fraud incidents, governance reviews and integrity resource updates, this panel will explore how boards can strengthen integrity frameworks, identify governance blind spots and foster a culture that supports transparency, accountability and ethical decision-making.
12:30 to 13:00 (30 mins)	BREAK – lunch	Social time
13:00 to 13:45pm (45 mins)	ESG: From compliance to strategic governance • Claire Luehman, Director Coliban Water	ESG considerations are increasingly influencing regulatory expectations, stakeholder trust, organisational resilience and long-term sustainability. This panel will explore how boards can obtain meaningful ESG assurance, oversee emerging obligations and ensure reporting supports strategic decision-making rather than becoming a compliance exercise.



	• Lisa Yan, VAGO	
13:45 to 13:55 (10 mins)	Final discussion Key takeaway you will bring back to your business	Tim Scholtes, Westernport Water
14:00	Meeting close	