

WORKTECH™

Sydney

WORK / WORKPLACE / TECHNOLOGY / INNOVATION

EXPLORE THE FUTURE OF WORK AND THE WORKPLACE

WESTPAC, 200 BARANGAROO AVENUE, SYDNEY

FRIDAY, 26TH JUNE

09:00 - 17:00

HOST PARTNER



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Isabel Dewhurst-Marks

**Managing Director,
WORKTECH Events**

A warm welcome to WORKTECH26 Sydney

We're delighted to welcome you to WORKTECH26 Sydney, Australia's leading forum for workplace visionaries, corporate innovators, and future-focused organisations.

At the heart of this year's event is a defining challenge: how do we create workplaces where people and performance thrive together? From AI and workplace data to future legal workplaces, adaptive environments, and human-centred design, this year's programme explores how leading organisations are rethinking the role of the office to drive culture, innovation, and business success.

You'll hear from pioneering voices and industry leaders as they share bold ideas, new research, and practical strategies shaping the workplace of tomorrow. Whether you're reimagining real estate, transforming technology, or evolving organisational culture, this event will equip you with the insights and inspiration to design environments where people and businesses can flourish.

Join us in Sydney to connect, learn, and be part of the conversation defining the future of work in 2026 and beyond.

Warmest Regards

Isabel

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SPEAKERS



SESSIONS



CONFERENCE AGENDA




VENUE



WHO ATTENDS



KEY INFORMATION



MEET THE SPEAKERS

WORKTECH26 Sydney will attract some of the biggest and brightest names to debate, discuss, and divulge the latest thinking on the future of work and the workplace.

The conference will feature leading international thinkers from industry and academia. Our speakers represent some of the world's biggest brands and best universities and research departments, alongside radical visionaries from new innovative organisations.

Through interdisciplinary speakers and learning experience, we focus on bringing cutting edge ideas and inspiration to the workplace community to enhance creativity and move thinking forward. Instead of focusing on peer to peer innovation through imitation, we aim to curate a unique programme, bringing together experts in the fields of people, place and technology and relevant adjacencies to reflect on the future of work and workplace.

Alongside the conference series, the WORKTECH Academy knowledge hub explores the future of work through six key themes: people, place, technology, design, culture and innovation. Creating leading commentary, research and publications WORKTECH Academy places scientific research at the heart of key business problems.

www.worktechacademy.com

Full list of speakers

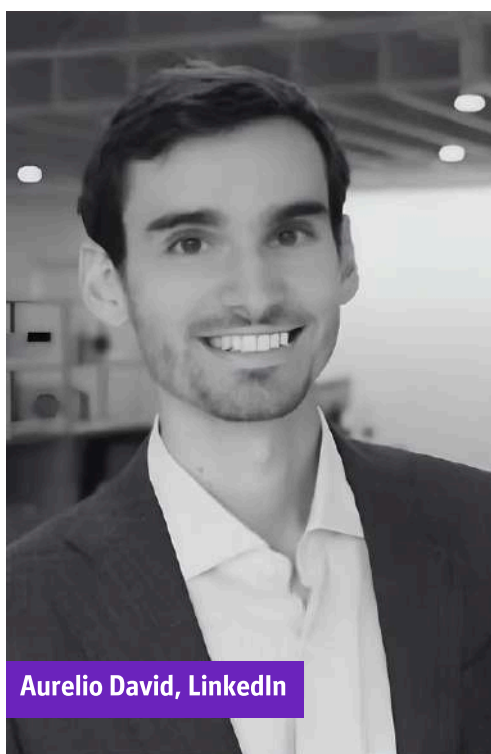
Paul Auglys [Westpac](#)
Liam Bates [Kaiterra](#)
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Paul Auglys, Westpac



Anika Meza, White Fox Boutique



Aurelio David, LinkedIn



Jamie Karsan, Gensler



Angela Keogh, A&O Shearman



Kim Ronaldson, Australian Retirement Trust



Maureen Migliazzo, Dentons



Nicholas Tiedt, Macquarie Group



Catherine Walsh, Transport for NSW



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The future of work and the workplace is on everyone's agenda. This event brings together thought leaders to share cutting edge ideas on the future from the perspectives of people, place and technology. It will allow an understanding of the key drivers of change and enablers of innovation that will shape how, where and when work takes place.

Key themes we will be discussing at this event include:

The Performance Imperative: What the Office Must Prove in 2026

As expectations of the workplace continue to evolve, physical space is under pressure to demonstrate its value – not just as a place to work, but as infrastructure for organisational performance.

Intelligence at Work: Data, AI and Better Decisions

AI, analytics, digital twins and intelligent systems are rapidly changing how workplaces are planned, managed and experienced. But the real challenge is no longer simply accessing the technology – it is knowing how to use it well.

Magnetic Workplaces: Brand, Culture and Human Experience

Organisations are collecting more workplace data than ever before, yet decisions are still often shaped by instinct, precedent, stakeholder pressure or familiar design patterns. As evidence becomes more available, the question is whether it is genuinely improving outcomes – or simply reinforcing what organisations already do.

From Strategy to Reality: Making Workplace Change Work

The workplace is becoming a more connected ecosystem – linking physical environment, digital infrastructure, organisational identity, employee experience and long-term business performance.

KEY THEMES

WHAT THE OFFICE MUST PROVE
IN 2026

DATA, AI & BETTER DECISIONS

BRAND, CULTURE & HUMAN
EXPERIENCE

MAKING CHANGE WORK



Workplace Relevance in a Youth Driven Brand: Inside White Fox's New HQ Ecosystem

Kate Gibson, Director – Clients & Strategy, PMG Group and Anika Meza, Head of People & Culture, White Fox Boutique

White Fox Boutique – Australia's globally ascending Gen Z fashion brand – has just moved into a purpose-built 13,000sqm workplace precinct in Sydney. This session offers a rare inside look at how a youth-driven, multi-million social media brand translates its identity, culture, and ambition into a physical workplace ecosystem. Kate Gibson and Anika Meza reveal the unexpected lessons, the bold people and brand-led design decisions, and the early results for talent attraction and retention.

From Portfolio Optimisation to AI Readiness: Macquarie's Workplace Data Journey

Lilli Jagger, Head of Growth, AUNZ, Nura Space and Nicholas Tiedt, Division Director, Macquarie Group

As workplace data becomes more central to property strategy, the next challenge is not simply collecting more information – it is making that data usable, connected and ready for the next wave of intelligent decision-making. In this presentation and fireside chat, Nicholas Tiedt of Macquarie Group will share how the organisation has used data to inform portfolio optimisation, connect property decisions with workplace experience, and build the foundations for AI-enabled insights.



The Workplace Planning Cycle: What's Changing, What's Not, and What to Do About It

Katherine Divett, CEO, Puzzle Partners, Paul Luciani, Director Real Estate, Greater China, India, East Asia, Oceania, EY, Kim Ronaldson, Manager People Services and Community, Australian Retirement Trust

Most organisations treat their workplace planning cycle as a project with a finish line. It isn't. Drawing on expert perspectives and more than 1,000 workplace transformations, Katherine Divett and a panel of senior practitioners consider each stage – from Exploration through Strategy and Design, Build and People Readiness, to life in the occupied space. Expect candid conversation about what's genuinely changing, where organisations stumble, and the practical shifts that make the difference between a workspace people tolerate and one they actually want to come to.

09:00 | CONFERENCE OPENS

09:30 | WELCOME TO WORKTECH SYDNEY

Eoin Higgins, Principal & Founder, Waveforming
Mark Wells, Executive Manager, Westpac

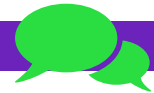


09:40 | WELCOME TO WESTPAC

Paul Auglys, Chief Property & Security Officer, Westpac



09:45 | AUDIENCE INTERACTION



THEME: THE PERFORMANCE IMPERATIVE: WHAT THE OFFICE MUST PROVE IN 2026

09:50 | PERFORMANCE BY DESIGN: WHAT PLACES MUST PROVE IN 2026

Sally Campbell, Principal, BVN
Peter James, Senior Asset Manager, Kador



In 2026, buildings are being asked to prove more. They must work harder environmentally, create stronger human experiences, contribute more meaningfully to place, and remain relevant in a rapidly changing world. This opening feature explores how leading Sydney projects are responding to that challenge through design, performance and long-term value. BVN will share the story of the new Sydney Fish Market — a major civic landmark designed around sustainability, public life and urban legacy. The session will also consider how existing buildings can be reimaged for the future, with workplace performance increasingly defined by environmental impact, wellbeing, experience and adaptability.

10:15 | THE PERFORMANCE IMPERATIVE: WHAT THE OFFICE MUST PROVE IN 2026

Moderator: Annabel Khoo, Global Strategy & Change Lead, Athena Blue Global
Jaimie Karsan, Experience Strategy Lead, Gensler
Catherine Walsh, Executive Director Workplaces, People, Communications and Workplaces, Transport for New South Wales
Catherine Sullivan, Head of Workplace, Westpac



The discussion will explore how organisations are moving beyond return-to-office debates to ask what the workplace now needs to deliver for people, culture, collaboration, and performance. Focusing on workplace strategy for complex organisations, where the challenge is not simply designing around a single head office model, but balancing flexibility, service delivery, mobility, employee experience, and performance at scale.

10:40 | FUTURE LEGAL WORKPLACE PANEL

Moderator: Domino Risch, Founder & Director, Placeology, Director - Workplace Strategy, UnWork
Maureen Migliazzo, Chief Operating Officer, Dentons
Angela Keogh, Head of Finance & Business Services, A&O Shearman



The legal sector is undergoing a significant workplace transformation. Across Australia, law firms are rethinking their offices, operating models and cultural practices as they respond to hybrid work, rapid advances in technology and new expectations from both clients and talent. For a profession built around collaboration, mentorship and deep focus, the workplace plays a uniquely important role. Today we've brought together leaders who are directly shaping workplace strategy inside their firms. Rather than discussing design alone, we'll explore how the workplace is becoming a strategic tool for enabling performance, supporting culture and preparing firms for the next phase of legal practice.

11:05 | NETWORKING AND COFFEE BREAK

THEME: INTELLIGENCE AT WORK: DATA, AI AND BETTER DECISIONS

11:45 | FROM PORTFOLIO OPTIMISATION TO AI READINESS: MACQUARIE'S WORKPLACE DATA JOURNEY

Nicholas Tiedt, *Corporate Real Estate, Macquarie Group*
Lilli Jagger, *Head of Growth, AUNZ, Nura Space*

 MACQUARIE
NURA • SPACE

As workplace data becomes more central to property strategy, the next challenge is not simply collecting more information — it is making that data usable, connected and ready for the next wave of intelligent decision-making. In this presentation and fireside chat, Nicholas Tiedt of Macquarie Group will share how the organisation has used data to inform portfolio optimisation, connect property decisions with workplace experience, and build the foundations for AI-enabled insights.

12:10 | AI 101: DESIGN IN THE AGE OF DIGITAL DISRUPTION

Kate Dodd, *Founder, Intent Strategy*



AI is in technical and practical chaos, blurring spaces between skills, futures, leadership, economics, and environmental consequences. You need to understand the basics of AI – risks, opportunities, and the essential facts behind the marketing and the headlines. But what does it all mean for design, property, and the future of work? Let's discuss the value and impact of design in today's Age of Digital Disruption, and in the potential futures we face.

12:35 | WE'VE BEEN BUILDING BUILDINGS BACKWARDS (AND HOW TECHNOLOGY FIXES THAT): WHAT 100 MILLION SQUARE METRES OF LIVE SENSOR DATA REVEALS ABOUT HOW THE WORLD'S BEST BUILDINGS ACTUALLY PERFORM

Liam Bates, *CEO and Co-founder, Kaiterra*



For decades, the industry has measured what's easy to count, energy, occupancy, certifications, and ignored the four variables that determine whether the people inside a building can actually think, focus, sleep, or recover: air quality, thermal comfort, lighting, and acoustics. Drawing on continuous environmental data from over 100 million square metres of premium buildings operated by the world's largest REITs and Fortune 100 corporate occupiers, Liam Bates, CEO of Kaiterra, makes the contrarian case that building performance has been measured backwards, shows why the perceived tension between environmental quality and NABERS Energy dissolves once you measure both, and reveals what separates buildings that earn the rent from those that don't.

12:55 | AUDIENCE INTERACTION



13:00 | NETWORKING AND LUNCH BREAK

THEME: HUMAN PERFORMANCE AND MAGNETIC WORKPLACES

14:00 | AUDIENCE INTERACTION



14:05 | THE SPACE THAT SHAPES THE MIND: HOW ADAPTIVE SOUND TRANSFORMS WORKPLACE PERFORMANCE

Marcus Rose, CEO, Valeo Technology



Your mindset doesn't exist in a vacuum, your environment shapes it. In this session, Marcus Rose, CEO of Valeo Technology, reveals how Moodsonic adaptive sound scaping and other sensory technology is transforming how workplaces feel, function, and perform. Drawing on award-winning projects across APAC, Marcus explores the neuroscience of sound, how intelligent sensory systems respond in real time to support focus, collaboration, and wellbeing, and why sound is the most overlooked and most powerful dimension of workplace design.

14:15 | FRAZZLED OR FOCUSED: HOW TO TURN A GREAT ENVIRONMENT INTO AWARD-WINNING RESULTS

Darren Fleming, *That Mindfulness Bloke*

Frazzled people in a great environment won't produce anywhere near what focused people in the same environment will. This session is about how people can control their attention and nervous system, so they can do the great work the fit-out was designed to amplify.

14:40 | WORKPLACE RELEVANCE IN A YOUTH DRIVEN BRAND: INSIDE WHITE FOX'S NEW HQ ECOSYSTEM

Anika Meza, *Head of People & Culture at White Fox*
Kate Gibson, *Director Clients & Strategy at PMG Group*



White Fox Boutique – Australia's globally ascending Gen Z fashion brand – has just moved into a purpose-built 13,000sqm workplace precinct in Sydney. This session offers a rare inside look at how a youth-driven, multi-million social media brand translates its identity, culture, and ambition into a physical workplace ecosystem. Kate Gibson (PMG Group, workplace strategy lead) and Anika Meza (White Fox, Head of People & Culture) reveal the unexpected lessons, the bold people and brand-led design decisions, and the early results for talent attraction and retention.

THEME: FROM EXPERIENCE TO ORCHESTRATION: MAKING WORKPLACE CHANGE WORK

15:05 | FROM WORKPLACE EXPERIENCE TO WORKPLACE ORCHESTRATION: MAKING THE OFFICE EASIER TO USE, MANAGE AND IMPROVE

Speakers to be announced soon

As organisations move beyond simple return-to-office policies, the next challenge is making workplace experience easier to coordinate, operate and continuously improve. This session explores how connected platforms, AI-enabled workflows and workplace data can help employees plan more purposeful office days, while giving workplace and real estate teams better visibility across reservations, services, facilities, space use and operational performance.

15:25 | NETWORKING AND COFFEE BREAK

WESTPAC, 200 BARANGAROO AVENUE, SYDNEY | VIRTUAL SESSION

15:50 | THE WORKPLACE PLANNING CYCLE: WHAT'S CHANGING, WHAT'S NOT, AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT

Moderator: Katherine Divett, CEO, Puzzle Partners

Paul Luciani, Director Real Estate, Greater China, India, East Asia, Oceania, EY

Kim Ronaldson, Manager People Services and Community, Australian Retirement Trust

Paige Lindholm, Workplace Operations Lead, Pinterest

Cathy Jameson, Design Director, Gensler

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16:30 | CHAIRPERSON'S CLOSING REMARKS

Eoin Higgins, Principal & Founder, Waveforming

Mark Wells, Executive Manager, Westpac



16:40 | NETWORKING DRINKS



17:00 | CONFERENCE CLOSES

MONDAY 29TH JUNE | VIRTUAL SESSION AND AUDIENCE Q&A

10:00 - 11:00 | LINKEDIN LIVE & INTERACTIVE: AI-DRIVEN WORKPLACE DESIGN: HOW AI IS SHAPING THE TEAM DYNAMICS AND THE FUTURE OF COLLABORATION

Aurelio David, Senior Manager, Workplace Research and Experimentation, LinkedIn



As artificial intelligence reshapes the nature of work, LinkedIn's Workplace team is advancing its flexible workplace strategy by reimagining how physical space supports emerging forms of collaboration. This session will present insights from recent research, including 40 leadership interviews, and findings from an 11-week experiment designed to test dedicated, AI-embedded environments for small, autonomous, cross-functional teams ("pods").

The "Pod Work Area" pilot at LinkedIn's headquarters assigned two pods (9 and 13 members) to dedicated zones with sit-stand desks, collaborative spaces, and Agile Project Rooms equipped with agentic technology. Using surveys, interviews, observations, and simulations, the pilot explored how proximity, space design, and embedded AI help close the gap between decision-making and execution while fostering performance and psychological safety.

This talk offers a glimpse into how LinkedIn—operating in 35+ global offices with 25,000+ employees—is preparing for a future where collaboration is faster, smarter, and more human.

WORKPLACE TOURS & NETWORKING LUNCH



THURSDAY 25TH JUNE | 9:30 AM OR 4 PM KPMG AUSTRALIA, 300 BARANGAROO AVENUE

Join us for an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of KPMG Australia's Barangaroo refreshed workplace. The upgrade delivers a modern, inclusive, and adaptable space that supports collaboration, innovation, and wellbeing. Enabled by seamless technology, flexible spaces, and sustainable practices, the environment reflects KPMG's Purpose and Values while enhancing user experience and operational efficiency.

Central to the design is the concept of 'common threads', inspired by Gadigal fisherwomen's fishing lines, symbolising strength and unity. By weaving new interventions with existing architecture and values, we create a cohesive, accessible, and connected workspace that supports our people, our clients, and future ways of working.



THURSDAY 25TH JUNE | 11 AM-12 PM ARCHITECTURAL TOUR OF SYDNEY FISH MARKET

Join us for an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of the new Sydney Fish Market, one of Australia's most significant waterfront developments. This guided visit offers a unique opportunity to explore how design, sustainability, and operational efficiency come together in a complex, high-performance environment.

Attendees will gain insight into the thinking behind the precinct's layout, including how the space supports diverse user needs, from commercial operations to public experience, while responding to environmental and logistical challenges.

The tour will also highlight how large-scale developments are integrating technology, sustainability, and user experience to create future-ready destinations that balance functionality with placemaking. This is a valuable opportunity to experience a landmark project first-hand and reflect on how similar principles may apply across workplace and mixed-use environments.



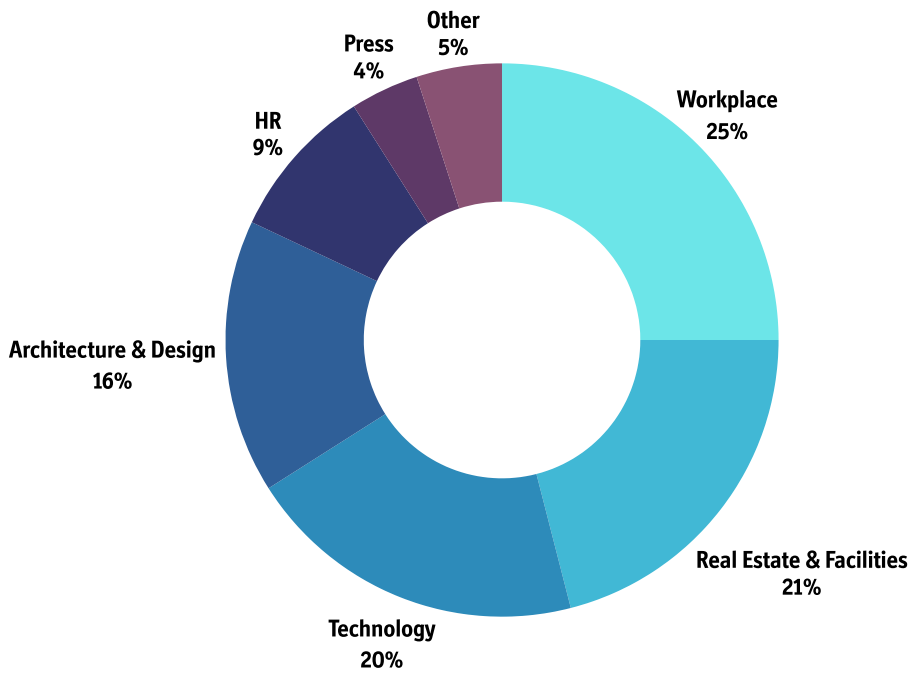
THURSDAY 25TH JUNE | 12:00 PM-1:30 PM TOUCH WOOD, SYDNEY FISH MARKET

Join fellow WORKTECH Sydney attendees for a relaxed pre-event networking lunch. This intimate gathering offers the opportunity to connect with peers in a relaxed setting ahead of the conference, bringing together fellow conference delegates.

Enjoy a sit-down, family-style lunch with coffee, tea, juice, and water available. Tickets can be added on for booked attendees for just \$70.

WHO ATTENDS

Attracting senior level professionals from Workplace, CRE, IT, HR and Architecture & Design



WORKTECH Sydney was a fantastic event – thought-provoking, well-curated, and packed with practical Insights on the future of work.

WORKTECH25 SYDNEY
DELEGATE



A great day at WORKTECH Sydney – full of diverse speakers, big ideas, and lively hallway conversations

WORKTECH25 SYDNEY DELEGATE



BOOK NOW

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KEY INFORMATION

Date

When: Friday 26th June

Where: Westpac, 200 Barangaroo Avenue, Sydney

How to book:

Visit: www.worktechevents.com/events/worktech26-sydney/

Offer a Special Rate to Your Network

Become a marketing partner for this event and qualify for a special rate for your colleagues, complimentary passes for yourself, logo exposure for your organisation, and more.

If you are part of a group that would like to attend and are looking for a joint group rate please get in touch to arrange a bespoke ticket price.

Become a WORKTECH Ambassador

We're looking for people that love the future of work and the workplace and social media. People who are willing to become part of our team and help spread the word to the masses. There will be a free event ticket available to successful applicants. Apply here: <https://bit.ly/3lj8AsA>

For more information on the above initiatives, please contact:

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