



ONLINE



# Australasia Commercial Property Conference

Empowering Professionals to Thrive in a Dynamic Global Market

15 Oct 2024





Type of event

Online



CPD Hours

4

Formal

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The RICS Australasia Commercial Property Conference is dedicated to navigating the complexities and opportunities within the commercial real estate market in Australasia. With a renewed theme of “Empowering professionals to thrive in a dynamic global market,” this event focuses on our commitment to addressing the most pressing challenges and emerging trends in the industry through critical topics transforming the landscape of commercial real estate.

Amidst economic instability, geopolitical impacts and its pressure on market health and the property sector, the conference aims to provide a comprehensive overview on market dynamics, with insightful discussions around AI's role in property management, data center investment, net carbon zero reporting and sustainable practice, innovative financing strategies for risk reducing for better asset management strategy.

By attending this conference and engaging with industry experts, professionals gain invaluable knowledge and practical strategies to navigate the evolving commercial real estate market.



Time zone:

AEDT

NZDT

10:30

12:30

**Online registration**

30 mins

11:00

13:00

**Welcome & chair remarks**

10 mins

11:10

13:10

**Keynote / The race to net zero carbon (doing and reporting)**

Reporting on carbon is now very real and required by financial reporting standards – The RICS Whole Life Carbon Assessment (WLCA) Standard, associated guides and tools like 'Global harmonisation framework for whole life carbon assessment' and 'Whole Life Carbon Assessments – a guide for clients' to facilitate understanding, endorsement, and adoption of the WLCA standard in markets across the world, providing an excellent tool kit for property owners and developers.

This session will provide a headline overview of the IFRS reporting requirements, the resources available and delve into the methodologies for calculating and reporting carbon emissions across the entire lifecycle of a property. We will learn how to integrate these practices into their sustainability strategies, ensuring compliance with evolving regulatory requirements and enhancing their market competitiveness.

**Aletta Boshoff**, Partner, Advisory, National Leader, IFRS & Corporate Reporting

**Anil Sawhney FRICS**, Head of Sustainability - RICS

12:00

14:00

**Virtual networking**

10 mins



Time zone:

AEDT

NZDT

12:10

14:10

## Panel / Data centres – the rise of an asset class

Data centres have rapidly emerged as a highly sought-after asset class in Australasia, propelled by a growing population and limited supply. The past year alone has seen the addition of over 150,000 square meters of data centre space, driven largely by significant overseas investments and developers. With over \$13.6 billion in planned investments, the data centre market is poised for further expansion, reflecting its critical role in the region's digital infrastructure.

This panel session will bring together leading experts from across Australasia to provide a comprehensive analysis of the burgeoning data centre market. Discussions will cover key factors such as land values, construction and fit-out costs, asset management, and sustainability challenges. Attendees will gain valuable insights into how these investments are shaping the market and the strategic considerations necessary for successful data centre development and management.

Moderator: **Vishant Narayan FRICS**, Managing Director - Ashbridge Real Assets

Panellists:

**Alex Moffat MRICS**, Australia Lead - Asia Pacific Data Centre Advisory Team

**Brian Coyle MRICS**, Director, Linesight

13:00

15:00

## Virtual networking

10 mins

13:10

15:10

## Panel / De-risking B grade buildings: what are the strategies?

From an investment and asset management perspective, a number of options can be considered, from re-positioning assets; to wholesale change of use, through innovative CAPEX/OPEX financing to enable sustainable asset management amidst high interest rates and capital costs.

A panel of experts will discuss the most effective strategies and explore creative financing solutions that transform traditional capital expenditure into operational expenditure, providing flexibility and cost efficiency. This will help attendees manage financial risks while achieving their environmental and business goals.

Moderator: **Vishant Narayan FRICS**, Managing Director - Ashbridge Real Assets

Panellists: **Chris Willey FRICS**



Time zone:

AEDT

NZDT

14:00

16:00

### Virtual networking

10 mins

14:10

16:10

### Panel / The rise of India and challenges in China - their impact on commercial real estate

Gain insights into how the economic rise of China and India, coupled with global geopolitical tensions, shape capital flows, tourism, market dynamics, and particularly the commercial property sector.

This session will provide a comprehensive analysis of the geopolitical landscape, examining how shifts in global power, trade policies, and regional conflicts impact investment strategies and market stability. Attendees will learn how to navigate these complexities to optimize their asset portfolios and align with emerging market opportunities.

Moderator: **Ben Burston**, Chief Economist, Research & Consulting, Knight Frank

Panelists:

**Arvind Nandan**, Managing Director, Research and Consulting, Savills India

**James Macdonald**, Head of Research, Savills China

15:00

17:00

### Virtual networking

10 mins

15:10

17:10

### Keynote / The AI property revolution: what can Australasia learn from Europe?

Learn about the transformative role of AI in property management and investment, including key applications and benefits that enhance decision-making and operational efficiency. With AI set to revolutionise commercial real estate – who is leading in this field overseas and what can we learn from them in this region?

This session will cover AI-driven innovations such as predictive analytics, automated property valuations, tenant behaviour analysis, and smart building technologies. Participants will gain a deeper understanding of how AI can streamline operations, reduce costs, and improve the overall performance of their real estate assets.

**Thomas Wiegelmann FRICS**, Dr, University College London

**Nikodem Szumilo**, Dr, University College London

# Programme



Australasia  
15 Oct 24

Time zone:

AEDT

NZDT

16:00

18:00

Closing remarks from conference chair  
5 mins

16:05

18:05

End of conference

## Delivering confidence

We are RICS. Everything we do is designed to effect positive change in the built and natural environments. Through our respected global standards, leading professional progression and our trusted data and insight, we promote and enforce the highest professional standards in the development and management of land, real estate, construction and infrastructure. Our work with others provides a foundation for confident markets, pioneers better places to live and work and is a force for positive social impact.

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