



 Sydney

Women in Tax

 28 April 2026

 CPD 1

Leading Under Pressure: Building Resilient and Sustainable Careers in Tax

Building a successful career in tax requires more than technical expertise. It demands resilience, leadership and the ability to manage pressure in a fast-changing professional environment.

The tax profession offers rewarding and impactful career opportunities, but it also brings constant legislative change, compliance risk, demanding client expectations and intense peak workload periods. These pressures are felt by professionals at every career stage, from emerging practitioners to senior leaders responsible for major commercial decisions.

This leadership panel brings together senior leaders from professional services and corporate tax functions to explore how professionals can build resilience, manage pressure and create sustainable, successful careers in tax.

The discussion will explore:

- Managing pressure created by legislative change, compliance demands and client expectations
- Navigating peak workload periods such as EOFY, audits and budget cycles
- Leadership and career skills that support long-term success, including communication, influence and decision-making
- Recognising and responding to mental health challenges in high-pressure professional environments
- Practical strategies professionals at all career stages can use to build resilience, maintain wellbeing and support team performance.

Attendees will leave with practical insights to help them manage pressure, strengthen resilience and make confident career decisions throughout their careers. Whether building a career or leading teams, this session offers practical guidance to help professionals perform, lead and thrive in the evolving tax profession.

Panellists:

Dorothy Hisgrove, National Managing Partner, People & Inclusion, KPMG

Meghan Speers, Managing Partner, Tax & Legal, Deloitte

Avril Coghlan, Head of Direct Tax, Lion

Event Details

Tuesday, 28 April 2026

Ivy Ballroom, 320 George St, Sydney

12:00 – 2:30pm



We welcome all supporters of
diversity and empowering
women in the workplace - no
matter what your gender

Speakers

Avril Coghlan has 15 years' experience across several countries, Avril leads corporate tax matters for Australia and New Zealand at Lion, having previously worked with EY in Ireland and Channel 7 in Australia. Avril believes that with automation, the tax function of the future will look very different from the past. At Lion, she drives initiatives to simplify and automate processes, strengthen governance and reduce risk, enabling smarter and informed decision-making. Avril is passionate about developing highly engaged teams and creating an environment where people feel supported, challenged and motivated to do their best work.



Dorothy Hisgrove is a member of KPMG's executive leadership team, Dorothy leads the firm's people and performance strategy, supporting a workforce of 10,000 across Australia. She brings extensive experience in human capital, transformation, and strategic leadership, having previously served as Partner and Chief People Officer at PwC. Her career also includes senior executive roles at BHP, NAB, Australia Post, and the AFL, where she led large-scale transformation, marketing, and people functions. Dorothy is a member of Chief Executive Women, Advisory Board Member of RMIT School of Management, Board Member of Corporate Mental Health Alliance Australia, Director of Essendon Football Club, and Advisory Board Member of the Commonwealth Games Australia Nominations Committee.



Meghan Speers is the Managing Partner of Tax & Legal at Deloitte Australia, based in Melbourne. Since joining Deloitte in 2008, and becoming a Partner in 2016, she has served in various leadership roles, including National Business Tax Offering Portfolio Leader, Victorian Market Business Leader, Victorian Business Tax Leader and as the T&L Financial Services Industry Leader. Meghan is passionate about client service and being a superannuation tax advisor. As a Chartered Accountant, an admitted solicitor of the Supreme Court, and a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, she brings a strong professional background to her leadership role. Meghan feels strongly about empowering women in leadership, fostering an inclusive culture, and supporting the next generation of female leaders. She became the first person in her area to be promoted to partner while working part-time. Beyond her professional achievements, Meghan is deeply committed to her community, recently serving as the Chair of Ovarian Cancer Australia, member of their Finance, Audit, and Risk committee, and is a member of Chief Executive Women.



"Serving on the Women in Tax Committee has been a real privilege. It provides a platform to hear from remarkable leaders in our field and to connect with talented women across the tax community. The Committee plays a vital role in elevating female leadership and encouraging women to step into roles that shape our profession. In an increasingly remote work environment, the Committee has also helped restore a sense of community and enriched my professional development and sense of belonging." **Sakshi Mathur, Director, KPMG Law**

Register now

Scan the code to purchase your tickets!



For event queries please contact:
NationalEvents@taxinstitute.com.au

A tax invoice and confirmation letter will be sent on receipt of your registration. Please photocopy for additional delegates and retain original copy for your records. All prices quoted are in Australian dollars and include GST where applicable. ABN 45 008 392 372.

1 Registration

Please select your registration type:

| Member | New member* | Non-member | Table Registration (10 attendees) |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$170 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$565 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$185 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1700 |

Please provide table attendees' name:

| | |
|--------|---------|
| 1..... | 6..... |
| 2..... | 7..... |
| 3..... | 8..... |
| 4..... | 9..... |
| 5..... | 10..... |

Dietary requirements:

Promotional code:

Become a member and save!

Not a member of The Tax Institute yet? Sign up for membership along with your event registration and:

- save over \$230 on Affiliate membership on the first 12 months
- access member-only prices to this and future events
- access all member-only technical resources.

Find out more about membership at taxinstitute.com.au/membership

JOIN TODAY

I hereby apply for membership of The Tax Institute and declare that I am a person of good fame, integrity and character. I agree to be bound by the Constitution of The Tax Institute.

Signature:

Date of signature:

2 Delegate contact details

Member no.: If your member details are up-to-date, you can skip this section.

Title: Mr Mrs Miss Ms Date of birth:

First name:

Last name:

Position:

Company:

Address:

Suburb: State: Postcode:

Telephone: Mobile:

Email:

Please tick this box if you do not wish your name to be included on the delegate list provided to all attendees for networking

3 Payment method

Please note: all registration payments must be made prior to the event, unless other arrangements have been made with The Tax Institute.

Cheque payable to The Tax Institute (in Australian dollars)

Credit card Card type: AMEX Visa MasterCard

Name on card:

Card no.: Expiry date:

Cardholder's signature:

For our refund, cancellation and replacement policy visit taxinstitute.com.au/professional-development/event-policy.

Collection notice: The Tax Institute (TTI) complies with its obligations under the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) with respect to how it handles personal information. For information on how TTI collects, uses, holds and discloses personal information, please see its privacy policy at www.taxinstitute.com.au. [You can also request TTI's consultants to provide you with a copy of TTI Privacy Policy.] By submitting your application to TTI, you confirm that you have read TTI's Privacy Policy and you consent to your personal information being collected, used and held by TTI and disclosed to third parties in accordance with TTI's Privacy Policy.

To register

Email customeradmin@taxinstitute.com.au

Mail Level 21, 60 Margaret Street, Sydney NSW 2000

Online [Women in Tax NSW Lunch](#)

The Tax Institute gratefully acknowledges the generous assistance of members of the Organising Committee:

Sakshi Mathur, KPMG Law, Chair, Women in Tax Organising Committee

Rae Ni Corraidh, CTA, Knowledge Shop

Penny Chiang, FTI, JCDcaux Australia

Catherine Dean, CTA, BDO

Jo-anne Hotson, CTA, TaxBoutique

Leanne Hume, ATI, Simply Numbers

Amanda Kazacos, King & Wood Mallesons

Katie Lin, CTA, Nexia

Jessica Tsai, FTI, Ashurst

Renee Santili, CTA, Roller

Sasha Smith, FTI, Deloitte

Hannah Soh, CTA, EY