



TECHNOLOGY - GOVERNANCE RISK AND ASSURANCE FORUM

MELBOURNE

Thursday, 13 August 2026
The Savoy on Little Collins

BRISBANE

Tuesday, 18 August 2026
Brisbane Marriott Hotel

Program Overview

The 2026 Technology Governance Forum focuses on the practical realities of governing, auditing, and responding to technology risk as organisations increasingly use technology and AI to transform how they operate.

This year's program is structured around two core themes:

- AI in Practice – Governance, risk and assurance in real-world implementation
- Technology and Resilience – Managing complexity, transformation and operational risk

Across the day, sessions will explore AI governance, auditing AI, data quality, cyber resilience, third-party technology risk, technology project assurance and the use of AI and technology within internal audit.

For internal audit, technology assurance, risk, and governance professionals, the forum offers practical insights, real-world examples, and peer connections to strengthen assurance over technology risk.

We look forward to welcoming you in Melbourne or Brisbane this August.



Sue Ironside PMIIA

President
IIA-Australia



Tariq Islam PMIIA

Program Co-Chair
Technology - Governance, Risk & Assurance Forum
IIA-Australia



Andrew McKay PMIIA

Program Co-Chair
Technology - Governance, Risk & Assurance Forum
IIA-Australia

Thank you to our Sponsors

Principal Sponsor



Major Sponsors



TeamMate®
by Wolters Kluwer



Conference Program

8.45am – 8.50am **Welcome address and opening remarks**

8.50am – 9.35am **Session 1**

The AI reality check – Moving beyond hype to practical value

- AI washing vs reality – Cutting through the noise to understand what AI can genuinely deliver
- The AI adoption dilemma – Distinguishing strategic opportunity from fear of missing out
- The hidden work behind AI – Why successful AI still relies on people, governance and oversight
- Balancing opportunity and risk – Navigating the practical trade-offs of AI adoption and scale
- Your AI maturity curve – Understanding where you are today and what needs to happen next to realise value responsibly and sustainably

(Melb/Bris) Helena Turpin, CEO & Co-Founder, GoFIGR

9.35am – 10.20am **Session 2**

Auditing data quality – Can you trust the data driving decisions?

- Why data quality matters – Understanding how poor data quality, integrity issues and incomplete information can undermine decision-making and reporting
- Auditing the data foundations – Assessing governance, ownership, controls, critical data elements and accountability for data across the organisation
- Following the data journey – Testing data lineage, interfaces, data in transit and how information flows across business processes and systems
- Testing what decision-makers rely on – Evaluating data accuracy, completeness, consistency and whether the right information is being used to support key decisions
- Building confidence in business decisions – How internal audit can provide assurance over the quality, movement and integrity of data underpinning organisational decision-making

(Melb/Bris) Kaustubh Vazalwar, Director, Cyber Security & Privacy Risk Services, RSM

10.20am – 10.50am **Product Demonstration**

AI Toolkit for Internal Audit: A Practical Resource for Understanding, Applying and Auditing AI

This session introduces a structured AI toolkit designed as a practical resource paper for internal audit, providing an overview of key tools, techniques and approaches to both leverage AI and strengthen assurance over its use. The session will position this toolkit as a reference guide that helps auditors confidently apply AI in their work while understanding how to assess AI risks, controls and governance in practice.

(Melb/Bris) Representative from Vanta

Conference Program

10.50am – 11.20am **Morning tea and networking break**

11.20am – 12.05pm **Session 3**

AI governance in practice – What actually works

- Building the governance foundations – Developing practical AI policies, accountability structures and governance frameworks
- Turning governance into day-to-day practice – Embedding AI governance into approval processes, risk assessments, monitoring and decision-making controls across the AI lifecycle
- Managing decentralised AI use – Addressing the realities of business-led experimentation, shadow AI and inconsistent practices across functions
- What works in practice – Lessons learned from organisations implementing AI governance, including common pitfalls, barriers and what delivers meaningful oversight

(Melb) RT Hanson AFIIA, Member, AI Working Group, IIA-Australia

(Bris) Portia Cerny PMIIA, Chair, AI Working Group, IIA-Australia & Director, Cerny Black Pty Ltd

12.05pm – 12.50pm **Session 4**

Cyber resilience – Threats vs controls approach

- Understanding the evolving threat landscape – Examining how cyber threats are changing, including the impact of increasingly advanced AI models on attack capability, speed and sophistication
- Threat-led vs control-led assurance – Challenging whether traditional control-based audit approaches are keeping pace with AI-enabled and real-world cyber threats
- Testing resilience, not just controls – Moving beyond checklist compliance to assess detection, response, recovery and business continuity capabilities under realistic threat scenarios
- Internal audit's role in cyber resilience – Identifying where assurance can provide meaningful challenge, insight and confidence in a fast-moving and increasingly AI-driven threat environment

(Melb) Mark Sayer, Chief Information Security Officer, Hollard Insurance

(Melb) Allan Edwards PMIIA CIA, Senior Manager Internal Audit, Australia Post

(Bris) Stephen Loch PMIIA CIA, General Manager, Internal Audit & Risk, Virgin Australia Airlines

(Bris) Darren Hopkins, Partner, McGrathNicol

12.50pm – 1.40pm **Lunch and networking break**

Conference Program

1.40pm – 2.25pm

Session 5

Auditing AI

- Auditing AI in practice – Moving beyond theory to examine how assurance teams are auditing AI in their organisation
- Scoping audits in changing environments – Defining audit boundaries, risks and assurance objectives in fast-evolving AI implementations
- Navigating transparency challenges – Addressing explainability, documentation gaps and the limitations of auditing “black box” AI tools
- Testing outputs and decisions – Practical approaches to validating AI-generated outputs, decision logic, reliability and consistency

(Melb) Ratan Kumar Arcot Parthiban AMIIA, Technology Audit Manager, TAL

(Bris) Tariq Islam PMIIA, Member, AI Working Group, IIA-Australia & Managing Director, RapidLynx

2.25pm – 3.10pm

Session 6

Auditing third-party technology risk

- Addressing challenging and practical approaches to assessing the governance, controls and resilience of key third-party service providers
- Looking beyond SOC reports to ongoing oversight – Understanding the limitations of point-in-time assurance reports and building stronger ongoing monitoring of evolving third-party technology risks
- Translating the Cyber Security and Third-Party Topical Requirements into practical audit scopes, testing approaches and assurance activities for third-party technology risk
- Third-party risk and operational resilience – Aligning assurance over technology providers with broader resilience obligations

(Melb) Aamir Husain PMIIA CIA, Principal Consultant and Trainer, Lakshaya Consulting

(Bris) Paul Thompson PMIIA CIA, General Manager Internal Audit, Origin Energy

3.10pm – 3.40pm

Afternoon tea and networking break

3.40pm – 4.25pm

Session 7

AI is changing internal audit – Are you keeping up? (Show & Tell)

- Real-world AI in action – Examples of what and how internal audit teams are using AI
- Insights into the practical steps in enabling AI – Understanding your outcomes, writing prompts and working with the guardrails
- Realising the benefits of AI – Examining opportunities and outcomes to improve internal audit efficiency, effectiveness and insight

(Melb) Parag Shah AMIIA, Executive Internal Audit, National Australia Bank & Member, AI Working Group, IIA-Australia

(Melb) Hui Zhang AMIIA, Director, Internal Audit, Australian Taxation Office

(Bris) Dr Peter McLeod PMIIA, CIA, GradCertIA, Associate Director (Internal Audit), The University of Queensland

Conference Program

4.25pm – 5.10pm

Session 8

Keeping technology projects on track – Providing effective assurance

- Understanding technology projects pitfalls – Unpacking the recurring causes of technology project failure, from governance breakdowns, scope creep and poor execution
- When complexity becomes the risk – Navigating the challenges of large transformation programs, competing priorities and interconnected delivery risks
- The cracks that appear early – Spotting weaknesses in business cases, requirements, assumptions and decision-making before they become expensive problems
- Providing assurance across the project lifecycle – How internal audit can deliver timely insight and assurance to strengthen governance, support better decisions and improve delivery outcomes

(Melb) Peter Bright AMIIA CIA, Vice President Functional Audit, BHP

(Melb) Natalie Perez PMIIA CRMA, Internal Audit Manager, IAG

(Melb) Ravneet Kaur, Principal Consultant, COMURA Group

(Bris) Adrian Morey, Managing Director, Outcome Advisory

(Bris) Narelle Daniels, Investment Portfolio Manager, Energy Queensland

5:10 PM – 5:15 PM

Closing Comments

How to register

Online Registration

Register online at www.ija.org.au and follow the prompts. Each delegate must complete a separate online registration form. Please note this is a secure website.

Registration forms

If you require an invoice, registration forms can be scanned and emailed to conferences@ija.org.au. Each delegate must complete a separate registration form.

Venue details

Melbourne

Savoy on Little Collins
630 Little Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

Brisbane

Brisbane Marriott Hotel
515 Queen St, Brisbane City QLD 4000

Conference fees

All fees are quoted in Australian Dollars and are inclusive of the 10% compulsory goods and services tax (GST).

CPE

Attendance will provide 8 CPE hours.

Technology - Governance, Risk & Assurance Forum 2026 – Registration Fees

Early Bird	Register before 31 July 2026
Member	\$790
Non-member	\$895
Standard	Register after 31 July 2026
Member	\$900
Non-member	\$1030

Group discount – A group discount of 10% applies when three or more people from the same organisation book at the same time. The relevant member or non-member rate will apply.