AGENGA

## Tuesday 17 November 2026

Dockside, Cockle Bay Wharf, Sydney

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| **OPTIONAL BREAKFAST – Australia's data centre landscape** | |
| 7:45 am | **Australia's data centre landscape: Current state, opportunities and sustainability considerations**<br>This optional breakfast session examines where the market is heading, the opportunities and constraints shaping future development, and why sustainability considerations now extend far beyond operational energy efficiency. Gain a broad understanding of the forces influencing investment, growth and industry performance.<br><br>Presentation: Understanding Australia's data centre landscape<br>***Alex Krickx*** *- Associate Principal, Sustainability,* ***Introba***<br><br>Panel: Beyond the headlines: Exploring data centre growth and sustainability<br>***Alex Krickx*** *- Associate Principal, Sustainability,* ***Introba***<br>***Joe Karten*** *- Head of Sustainability and Social Impact,* ***Built***<br>***Peter Wang*** *– Director, Sustainability,* ***Zerra DC***<br>***Taryn Cornell*** *- Senior Manager, Strategy & Development****, Green Building Council of Australia (Moderator)*** |
| 8:45am | **Close of breakfast** |
| **MORNING PROGRAM** | |
| 8:30am | **Arrival and networking** |
| 8:50am | **Opening remarks from the Chair**<br>***Jamie Wallis*** *- Senior Manager, Sustainable Finance and Performance****, Green Building Council of Australia*** |
| 8:55am | **Welcome to Country** |
| 9:00am | **Icebreaker – An informal session to build your network** |
| 9:10am | **Welcoming remarks from GBCA and Data Centres Australia**<br>***Davina Rooney*** *- CEO****, Green Building Council of Australia*** *and*<br>***Belinda Dennett*** *- CEO,* ***Data Centres Australia*** |
| 9:15am | **Industry leaders' panel: Growth, responsibility and the future of data centres**<br>With market demand accelerating and expectations evolving, data centre leaders face a complex mix of opportunity and responsibility. This panel of senior industry leaders will explore the biggest drivers shaping the sector and share their perspectives on where sustainability can create competitive advantage, resilience and long-term value.<br>***Kane Thornton*** *- Head of Strategic Impact****, CDC***<br>***Belinda Dennett*** *- CEO,* ***Data Centres Australia***<br>***Charles Penny*** *– CEO,* ***GreenSquare***<br>***Davina Rooney*** *- CEO****, Green Building Council of Australia*** *(Moderator)* |

9:50am **Panel: What do government frameworks and policies mean for growth and sustainability**

Government policy is rapidly emerging as a key influence on where and how data centres are developed. This session explores the evolving policy, planning and regulatory landscape, considers how these settings may influence the coming decade.

***Said Hirsh*** *- Head of Strategy, Planning and Innovation,* ***NSW Infrastructure***

***David Earl*** *- Acting Branch Head, Data Centre Energy Taskforce | National Energy Transformation Division,* ***Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water***

***Elise Wood -*** *Head of Urban Foresight and City Strategy,* ***City of Melbourne***

***Katy Dean*** *- Senior Policy Advisor,* ***Green Building Council of Australia*** *(Moderator)*

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10:25am **Preview of GBCA's Data Centres, Growth and Sustainability report - state of the market for Australia**

Developed through collaboration across industry, the state of the market report, supported by Data Centres Australia, identifies the sector's most significant sustainability opportunities, challenges and unresolved questions. In this session we will preview the paper and explore the insights that emerged during its development, providing a foundation for discussion throughout the day.

***Jorge Chapa*** *– Chief Impact Officer,* ***Green Building Council of Australia***

*In conversation with* ***Tim Bush*** *- Co-Chair, Sustainability & Water Technical Committee,* ***Data Centres Australia***

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10:50am **Morning tea**

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11:20am **Panel: The cost of data – the energy, water and infrastructure contribution of data centres**

The rapid growth of digital infrastructure is creating new demands on energy systems, water resources and essential infrastructure. This panel discussion explores the broader impacts of data centre development and operation, examining how the sector can balance growth with responsible resource management, community expectations and long-term resilience.

***Jeffrey D. Van Zetten*** *– Chief Engineering and Design Officer,* ***NEXTDC***

***Dena Jacobs*** *- Executive Director – Strategy, Planning and Innovation, Infrastructure,* ***NSW Infrastructure***

***Harshal Patel*** *- Market Lead – Renewables,* ***Beca***

***Jamie Wallis*** *- Senior Manager, Sustainable Finance and Performance****, Green Building Council of Australia*** *(Moderator)*

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**BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

12:00pm **BREAKOUT 1: The sustainability balancing act – water, energy and cooling trade-offs**

Sustainability outcomes rarely exist in isolation. This session presents real-world examples with several rapid presentations followed by a discussion with all our speakers. The presentations include:

**The energy-water nexus: Insights shaping the next chapter for NABERS**

***Magali Wardle*** *- Head of Market Development,* ***NABERS***

***Case Study: Finding the balance***

***Jeffrey D. Van Zetten*** *– Chief Engineering and Design Officer,* ***NEXTDC***

***The flow-on effect: A balanced approach to cooling design in the Australian context***

**BREAKOUT 2: Sustainable finance and investment – what will the market reward?**

As sustainability expectations continue to evolve, investors, lenders and asset owners are increasingly seeking credible evidence of long-term value and risk management. This session examines the growing relationship between sustainability performance and capital allocation.

***Natalie Black*** *- Director – Sustainable Finance****, ANZ***

***Michael Dolan*** *- Senior Manager, Climate and Sustainability Practice,* ***Australian Sustainable Finance Institute***

***Priyanka Jain*** *– Associate Director, Treasury* ***AirTrunk***

***Jamie Wallis*** *- Senior Manager – Sustainable*

***Josh Martens*** *– CTO,* ***GreenSquare***

***Jorge Chapa*** *– Chief Impact Officer,* ***Green Building Council of Australia*** *(Moderator)*

*Finance and Performance,* ***Green Building Council of Australia*** *(Moderator)*

12.50pm **Lunch**

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

1:55pm

**BREAKOUT 3: Sustainability innovations changing data centres**

Innovation will play a critical role in delivering the next generation of sustainable data centres. Through a series of fast-paced presentations, industry experts address some of the sector's sustainability challenges.

Presentations include:

***Innovation 1- The site selection tool integrating planning zones, energy, water, fibre connectivity and potential community impacts into one platform***
***Professor Priya Rajagopalan*** *- Associate Dean (Research and Innovation),* ***RMIT***

***Innovation 2 - Designing out embodied carbon***
***Evan Smith*** *- National Sustainability Manager - Sustainable Construction,*
***Holcim Australia***

***Innovation 3 - Not all aluminium is created equal - the facts behind more sustainable aluminium choices***
***Kellie Moore*** *- Group Marketing Communications Manager,* ***Capral***

***Innovation 4 - Batteries to replace diesel generators on construction sites for lower embodied carbon***
***Julian Kezelman*** *– Director,* ***Taronga Group***

***Taryn Cornell*** *– Senior Manager, Strategy & Development,* ***Green Building Council Australia*** *(Moderator)*

**BREAKOUT 4: Workshop session - from social licence to community value**

As data centres become increasingly visible in communities across Australia, it is essential to consider true community consultation and engagement. This interactive workshop explores how sustainability initiatives can create meaningful local benefits through employment, skills development, infrastructure, resilience and community partnerships. Delegates will work together to consider what it means for a data centre to be recognised not only as essential infrastructure, but as something of value.

*Facilitator:* ***Kylie Cochrane -*** *Principal, Engagement and Change Advisory,* ***Aurecon***

2:45pm **Afternoon tea**

3.15pm **Solutions exchange roundtables**
Attendees select a relevant topic. The discussion will be curated and facilitated to focus upon possible solutions and the opportunities ahead.

Roundtable topics include:

- Working with the grid
- Cooling innovation
- Backup power
- Embodied carbon and materials
- Circularity
- Nature
- Community impact, value and local benefit
- Investment, finance and ESG performance

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| | *Roundtable facilitators include:*<br>***Prameena Karunairaj** - Senior Sustainability Manager**, Goodman***<br>***Joe Karten** – Head of Sustainability and Social Impact, **Built***<br>***Tanzin Authoi** - Sustainability Manager, **A W Edwards***<br>***Suzi Davies** - Manager - Climate Change and Sustainability Services, **EY***<br>***Gary Wertheimer** – Director, **GIW Environmental Solutions***<br>***Callum Burgess** – Senior Sustainability Engineer, **Perspektiv***<br>***Jack Cook** - Senior Consultant, Data Centres – WA, **Arup***<br>***Taryn Cornell** – Senior Manager, Strategy & Development, **Green Building Council Australia*** |
| 3:50pm | **Round table report back: Insights from the room**<br>A rapid report back capturing the strongest opportunity, barrier and insight from each table. |
| 4:05pm | **Panel: Designing and building the next generation of sustainable data centres**<br>What will a leading sustainable data centre look like in 2035? This future-focused panel explores how sustainability leaders are rethinking energy, cooling, embodied carbon, water, resilience and nature considerations to create facilities that are ready for the demands of an increasingly digital world. Delegates will hear how today's decisions can shape the next generation of high-performing, future-ready data centres.<br>**Panellists include:**<br>***Stacey Johnson -** Associate Director, Sustainability, **AirTrunk***<br>***Simone Concha -** Head of ESG, **Richard Crookes Construction***<br>***Tim Bush –** Global Principal Sustainability Engineer, **Data Center Engineering, AWS***<br>***Jorge Chapa –** Chief Impact Officer, **Green Building Council of Australia (Moderator)*** |
| 4:45pm | **Reflections for the future: From conversation to impact**<br>**Davina Rooney –** CEO**, Green Building Council of Australia** |
| 5:00 - 7:00pm | **Networking drinks reception and industry connections** |