

Business Law

Thursday 17 August 2023

Session 2 – 11.00am – 12.00pm

Insolvency law update: How solicitors can advise zombie companies in 2023

The most significant new developments in insolvency law have been the small business restructuring process under Part 5.3B of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) as well as the joint parliamentary inquiry into Corporate Insolvency. This session will examine the results and take-up of the new small business restructuring process, as well as the Inquiry's recommendations. Another significant development in insolvency has been the Federal Parliamentary Joint Committee Inquiry into Corporate Insolvency. Presenter Ben Sewell, who was called as a witness for the Inquiry, will discuss the findings in the committee's report, which aimed to consider the "effectiveness" of the entire system of corporate insolvency in Australia.

Meet the speaker

Ben Sewell, Principal, Sewell & Kettle Lawyers

Ben Sewell is an expert in the areas of insolvency law, company restructuring and commercial litigation, with 20 years' experience in these fields. He has been identified as a thought leader by the Law Society of New South Wales for the new safe harbour for directors and chaired its Insolvency Reform Masterclass in 2018 and 2020. Ben is both a lawyer and restructuring practitioner (registered liquidator) and so he takes a multidisciplinary approach to business insolvency problems. Ben was called as a witness by the Federal Parliamentary Joint Committee Inquiry into Corporate Insolvency in Australia in 2023 and he has a strong interest in ongoing law reform to improve our system of corporate insolvency.