

# Property Law

**Thursday 15 August 2024**

**Session 5 – 2:45pm - 3:45pm**

## **Combustible cladding: The latest law and likely developments**

Fires in high rise towers (including the Grenfell Tower in London and Lacrosse in Melbourne) have brought notoriety to a popular façade finish known as aluminium composite panels ('ACP'), and have seen legislative and regulatory amendment introduced in most states to prohibit the use of so-called 'combustible cladding'. This has also seen building owners question the design and approvals process whereby such cladding was permitted and used in the buildings' construction. Inevitably, litigation has ensued, with architects, engineers, certifiers, suppliers, subcontractors and head contractors the typical targets. The presenter will discuss these issues, the recent authorities that have considered them, and the implications for property owners.

## **Meet the speaker**

### **Richard Cheney SC, Barrister, Greenway Chambers**

Richard Cheney SC specialises in construction, infrastructure, insurance and professional negligence law and appears at trial and appellate level. Richard also regularly acts as a mediator, arbitrator and referee. He brings a depth of practical knowledge to construction litigation, having a Bachelor of Building Degree and having previously practised as a site engineer on Sydney high-rise projects. Richard was appointed Senior Counsel in 2011 and is a NSW Bar Association BarADR approved arbitrator. He has been recognised many times in Doyle's Guide: in 2021 and 2022 as 'Recommended' – Leading Professional Indemnity Senior Counsel (NSW); in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2023, as 'Leading Construction & Infrastructure Senior Counsel (NSW)'; in 2023, as 'Leading Construction & Infrastructure Senior Counsel (Australia)'; and in 2018, as 'Recommended' in the category 'Leading Insurance Senior Counsel (Australia)'. Richard has also been recognised in Best Lawyers in Australia each year since 2019 under the categories Construction/Infrastructure Law and Insurance Law.