



Rebecca Mitchell

Governance Advisory Lead



"Rebecca's delivery of the risk workshop was outstanding. She provided a thoughtful review of the key risks facing our organisation, and the Board was highly impressed with both her approach and the overall process. Aligning this workshop with our strategic direction of continually improving our financial and risk controls to manage our resources effectively and sustainably was imperative."

Susan Kelly, Chief Executive Officer

Short Profile

Rebecca is a successful corporate leader and lawyer with over 19 years' experience providing strategic, legal and regulatory advice across a wide range of Board, CEO Leadership Team and Executive level issues. Focussing her current and extensive skills on managing and resolving high risk legal, regulatory and commercial issues, Rebecca has acted for and against industry and federal regulatory bodies and is well versed in all aspects of corporate governance and legal risk management including Board, Audit & Risk Committee and CEO level advice and reporting.

With a reputation for her exceptional ability to develop excellent rapport and respect quickly, Rebecca has worked across and within a large and diverse range of organisations, including the Australia Competition and Consumer Commission, Telstra Corporation Ltd and, most recently, with multinationals and member mutuals in the financial services sector. Experienced as a lawyer, a commercial manager and regulatory advisor both domestically and internationally, Rebecca brings a strong and savvy approach to issues management and is able to appreciate (and work effectively with) the array of different perspectives that stakeholders inevitably bring.

A proactive, inspiring and approachable advisor, Rebecca's long-standing expertise traverses all aspects of corporate governance and legal compliance including education/training across organisational levels, incident management and regulatory implementation, enforcement actions/litigation. A seasoned corporate operator, Rebecca has recent, direct and long-standing involvement in negotiating and implementing some of Australia's most complex commercial infrastructure and regulatory arrangements as well as resolving high stakes and multifaceted regulatory implementation and enforcement matters.

Qualifications

Graduate, Australian Institute of Company Directors

Master of Laws (Commercial Law), University of Queensland (Dean's Commendation for Academic Excellence)

Bachelor of Laws, Murdoch University, Western Australia

Bachelor of Asian Studies (Japanese Studies), Murdoch University, Western Australia

Completed executive short-course on Economic Regulation, London School of Economics and Politics, London

Admitted to the High Court of Australia, Federal Court of Australia and Supreme Courts of Queensland, NSW and WA

Current Legal Practising Certificate (Queensland)

Current Positions

- Non-Executive Director, Inala Primary Care;
- Non-Executive Director, Innovate Health Solutions
- Governance Advisory Lead at Board Matters Pty Ltd, a governance advisory and development consultancy assisting boards and governing bodies of companies, organisations and enterprises across Australia;
- Graduate, Australian Institute of Company Directors
- Member Queensland Law Society

Relevant Experience

Immediately prior to her strategic move to Board Matters in 2019, Rebecca spent 11 years with Telstra Legal Services, the last 7 years as Supervising Counsel with day-to-day responsibility for supporting Telstra's largest business unit, Telstra Operations.

Rebecca was directly responsible for negotiating significant aspects of the suite of unprecedented commercial arrangements between Telstra and nbn co and accountable for all aspects of legal support for Telstra's implementation of those multi-billion-dollar long term commercial arrangements - a project with the highest level of government, regulatory, corporate and public attention. Along with managing a team of 9 senior lawyers, Rebecca's substantial portfolio at Telstra included responsibility for advising on a broad range of industry specific and general regulation and governance. This included writing/delivering legal education and compliance training to stakeholders at all levels, the management and resolution of escalated customer complaints and regulatory interactions, investigations and litigation. Rebecca formally sat on several senior leadership teams within the Telstra business and led wider engagement by the Telstra Legal Services team on Telstra Customer Experience initiatives as well as being a long term and passionate supporter/participant in Telstra's diversity and pro bono initiatives.

Prior to joining Telstra in 2006, Rebecca worked as a Senior Associate with Corrs Chambers Westgarth and practised in Perth, Sydney and Brisbane predominantly as a competition and consumer law specialist. Preceding her promotion to Supervising Counsel, Telstra recruited Rebecca as an experienced competition and consumer law litigator to strengthen its in-house capability in the public policy, regulation and government relations arena.

Following 11 successful, happy and incredibly interesting years with Telstra, a corporate restructure announced by Telstra in late 2018 inspired Rebecca to act on her burgeoning desire for new and diverse challenges in a broader landscape, resulting in her move into governance advisory work and commencement of her board career. Ever the regulatory lawyer however, Rebecca continues to maintain involvement in legal practice alongside her governance advisory and board roles. Since 2019, Rebecca has acted as a consultant legal adviser to respondent organisations involved in regulatory enforcement actions brought by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission in the financial services sector as well as other bespoke regulatory engagements and implementations.

Consulting Focus

As a governance consultant, Rebecca is available to a range of for-profit and not-for-profit organisations and believes the true purpose of corporate governance is to harness a board's collective energy and skills to drive a dynamic organisation for the creation of stakeholder value (including the delivery of mission and services).

Rebecca uses her extensive corporate experience and savvy approach to legal/ regulatory issues, commercial risk and governance in the following areas:

- strategic advice and planning for and assisting in regulator liaison and government advocacy;
- undertaking board performance evaluations, and board composition and competencies assessments;
- providing board and executive education, training and mentoring;
- conducting governance reviews, including analysing constituent documents and governance structures;
- drafting, and advising on, constitutions, charters, by-laws, policies and procedures;
- undertaking company secretarial services and preparation of training manuals;
- reviewing the effectiveness of, and drafting, corporate risk management frameworks;
- assessing governance effectiveness for funding requirements.

Other Activities

Rebecca has presented at legal and industry conferences domestically and internationally. She is an adept and engaging public speaker and has previously hosted the Queensland workshop for finalists of the Telstra Business Women's Awards.