



WOLLERMAN SHACKLOCK

Lawyers

Your voice through our values of equality, respect and integrity

NEWSLETTER

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**Happy
Valentines
Day**

From the Wollerman
Shacklock Team to you!



Our website has an array of
informative and educational
blogs on a variety of topics such
as Probate, Wills, Conveyancing,
Property and Commercial
matters.

CLICK HERE



As February unfolds, we bring
you a concise overview of key
legal developments and
insights to keep you informed.
This edition highlights timely
updates and trends to help you
navigate the evolving legal
landscape with confidence

2026 Changes to Laws

1. Vacant Residential Land Tax

- From 1 January 2026 VRLT now applies to undeveloped vacant land in metropolitan Melbourne which has remained undeveloped for more than 5 years.

2. New mandatory merger control regime

- businesses must notify proposed acquisitions which meet certain thresholds, and are not otherwise exempt. They must then wait for the ACCC's approval before the acquisition can proceed.

3. New Tax on Trusts

- Additional taxes on discretionary trusts and testamentary trusts that have or could have foreign residents as beneficiaries.



WOLLERMAN SHACKLOCK

Lawyers

Our Services

- Property Law & Conveyancing
- Wills, Powers of Attorney & Deceased Estates
- Commercial Law & Business Law

Property Law & Conveyancing

- Adverse Possessions, Easements & Covenants
- Lease Agreements, Renewals, Disputes & Variations
- SMSF Sale & Purchases
- Property Sale, Purchase and Transfers
- Subdivisions & Consolidations
- Loan Agreements & Mortgages

Wills, Powers of Attorney & Estates

- Will Disputes
- Probate & Letters of Administration
- Estate Planning
- Applications by Personal Representative & Surviving Proprietor
- Wills, Powers of Attorney

Commercial & Business

- Business Sale & Purchases
- Franchise, Shareholders & Partnership Agreements
- Advice on business structures for your needs (e.g. joint ventures)
- Companies & Trusts
- Business Disputes
- Bank Guarantees/Solicitors Certificates

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Cyber Security

how to protect yourself



Law firms and their clients are targets for cyber fraud including email compromise, payment redirection fraud and ransomware attack. Here are some precautionary measures we can all take to ensure the security of your information and money transfers.

WHAT WE WILL DO

- Tell you at the start of a matter what our payment details are and not change those details unless we speak to you first. We will never notify you of a change in bank account details only by email.
- Always authenticate and verify email instructions from you that direct where money should be sent by speaking to you in person or by phone.

WHAT YOU MUST DO

- Before transferring money always call or visit the person handling your file or another known contact at the firm to verify you have our correct account details.
- Never respond to an email that purports to be from us requesting you to pay money to a bank account that is different from the account that we gave you at the start of the matter.
- Contact our office by telephone or in person if you receive any unexpected or suspicious email purporting to be from us.

Follow some basic cyber-crime prevention steps including:

- - keep all software on your devices up to date with all updates and security patches installed
 - have different passwords for everything. Make sure they are at least eight characters long, and contain capital letters and numbers, and change them at least every 12 months
 - keep an eye out for phony or fraudulent emails. Don't respond to emails that ask for personal information as legitimate companies will not use email to ask for your personal information
 - don't open attachments or click on links embedded in emails from people you don't know.
 - implement multi-factor authentication for all devices
 - check your email rules regularly to make sure any rules that are there have been created by you and not a cyber-criminal who has gained access to your emails.