

## MEDIA RELEASE



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# Norman Waterhouse leads the state in planning and environmental law

Norman Waterhouse has been named a First Tier firm in South Australian environmental and planning law, by the prestigious Doyle's Guide to the Australian Legal Profession.

According to Environment and Planning Partner Gavin Leydon, this makes Norman Waterhouse a clear choice over other firms servicing the local government sector in South Australia.

"Over the last decade we have built the largest and most experienced team of legal specialists in local government law in the state," he said.

"This recognition provides additional credibility and assurance that our local government clients are using the best firm in SA for planning and environment advice and representation, as judged by an independent authority."

Gavin is a specialist in property development, urban and regional planning, environmental and administrative law and has participated on numerous Government committees and working groups that have led to important legislative change such as the introduction of the first significant tree controls in SA.

He has also successfully represented clients in litigation in the Environment, Resources and Development Court and the Supreme Court; is a member of the SA Heritage Council and is currently Presiding Member of the Planning Minister's Local Heritage Advisory Committee.

His fellow Environment and Planning Partner Peter Psaltis also welcomed the recognition by Doyle's.

"In an increasingly competitive marketplace, it is timely for our clients to see how we are rated and judged by our peers and others within the industry," he said.

Sometimes it can be difficult for clients to appreciate true value and quality in legal services. It may seem that all lawyers are created equal, whereas more discerning clients understand that experience usually brings about superior outcomes."

Peter has also had extensive experience in enforcement and compliance related matters, arising under the Development Act, Environment Protection Act, Native Vegetation Act, and Natural Resources Management Act.

The Doyle's listing of Australia's best legal firms and lawyers is compiled annually on the back of extensive telephone and face to face interviews with clients, peers and relevant industry bodies.

Each response is ranked according to a transparent weighting system and the final tier placement is based on Doyle's editorial discretion. Firms are ranked as First, Second or Third Tier or Recommended. First Tier firms have the highest number of recommendations.

Doyle's makes it clear that all research is compiled on an independent basis. To avoid any potential conflict of interest between profitability and editorial independence, law firms, lawyers or barristers are not permitted to advertise or engage in paid profiles or listings of any form.

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