

Luke Paterson

Partner

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OVERVIEW

Luke Paterson is a partner in the firm's Corporate practice. He focuses on mergers and acquisitions (M&A), corporate transactions, venture capital and private business. He is experienced in all aspects of corporate transactions, including structuring, due diligence, negotiating transaction documents and addressing post-transaction implementation issues.

Luke advises multinationals, listed entities, family business owners, syndicates, start ups and venture capital funds in various sectors, including mining services, technology, renewables and clean energy, construction, agribusiness, syndicated property assets, mining camps, start-ups, tourism assets, among others.

Luke has also advised many Indigenous businesses and entrepreneurs in the structure, formation and operation of joint ventures around Australia.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Prior to joining K&L Gates, Luke was a partner in the corporate commercial group at a West Australian law firm.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recognised by *Doyle's Guide* as a recommended:
  - Leading Corporate Lawyer – Western Australia, 2025
  - Leading Agribusiness Lawyer, 2018-2019
- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in Australia™* for Agribusiness and Rural Affairs, 2021-2022

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Member, Law Society of Western Australia
- Member, Australian Sailing Limited, Director and Audit and Risk Sub-Committee, 2023-present

- Secretary committee member, Warren Jones Foundation
- Former committee member, Royal Freshwater Bay Sailing Club

EDUCATION

- LL.B., University of Western Australia, 2005
- B.Com., University of Western Australia, 2002

ADMISSIONS

- High Court of Australia
- Supreme Court of Western Australia

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- 13 November 2025, AUKUS and the AMC: Summary of Key State and Federal Government Announcements
- 12 November 2024, Directors and Officers of Retirement Villages in Western Australia–The Retirement Villages Amendment Bill 2024 Materially Increases Your Risk of Being Personally Liable for the Acts and Omissions of Your Organisation
- 17 October 2024, Proposed Amendments to the Associations Incorporations Act 2015
- 20 August 2024, JORC Code Update–Compliance With Guidance

NEWS & EVENTS

- 12 October 2026, K&L Gates Advises WGA Group Holdings on Sale to AtkinsRéalis
- 3 February - 19 February 2026, 2026 CPD Program–Australia
- 11 February - 20 February 2025, 2025 CPD Program–Australia
- 1 July 2024, K&L Gates Continues Strong Growth in Corporate, Real Estate Practices With Two Partner Additions in Perth

OTHER MEDIA MENTIONS

- Quoted, WA's new Retirement Villages Act significantly increases operator's risk of being personally criminally liable: lawyers, *The Weekly Source*, 18 November 2024

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Emerging Growth and Venture Capital
- Private Equity Transactions

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Advised Purpose Ventures Fund 1 ILP, a Western Australia-based venture capital fund, as lead investor in a seed funding round of Coursebox Pty Ltd.
- Advised Purpose Ventures Fund 1 ILP, a Western Australia-based venture capital fund, in its follow-on investment into Paperly Pty Ltd.
- Advised Purpose Ventures Fund 1 ILP, a Western Australia-based venture capital fund, as lead investor in its investment in Gathered here Pty Ltd.
- Acted for Purpose Ventures Fund 1 ILP, a Western Australia-based venture capital fund, in its investment in Andromeda Inc. This investment included a US flip up and a Series A funding round by the newly created US HoldCo.
- Advised BetterLabs Pty Ltd, an early-stage venture capital fund and venture studio based in Perth, Western Australia, on its follow-on investment in WeMoney's Series A funding round.
- Advised the owners of a market on Gina Rinehart’s Hancock Prospecting’s sale of a majority investment and controlling stake in the BFM Group.
- Advised a green energy supplier in relation to joint venture agreements, unitholder agreements, project agreements, and debt finance arrangements for a joint venture involving the development of Nomad Energy's various wind, BESS, solar/BESS hybrid projects with Atmos Renewables.
- Advised a venture capital firm on its investments in startups (pre-seed to Series B rounds), including equity funding round advice, share subscription agreements, shareholder agreements, employment and contracting arrangements, and IP protection and management.
- Advised a global engineering consultancy on its acquisition of an urban design firm with multiple Australian offices.
- Advised a building and management system on SUSI Partner’s investment in Starling Energy, a clean energy technology and VPP company specialising in integrated solar and storage systems.
- Advised the vendors on the sale of a civil construction business to the Hiway Group (a Riverside Co business) for an undisclosed sum.
- Advised a pulp mills company on the acquisition of securities in the then KKR controlled Santanol Group, an Indian sandalwood business based in the Kimberley region of Western Australia.

- Advised an investment company on its seed and follow-on investments in startups, including equity funding and follow-on round advice, share subscription agreements, shareholder agreements, employment and contracting arrangements, and IP protection and management.
- Advised on the joint venture, project and equity, and debt financing documents for a large-scale solar project in Western Australia, involving an investment by the UK alternative investor, Ingenious Group.
- Advised an investment fund on its acquisition and the subsequent disposal of a 50% interest Exchange Tower, through the sale of units in a unit trust, with an overall transaction value of AU$326 million.
- Advised a superannuation consultant on the joint venture, equity funding, development and operational agreements regarding the Cottesloe Living, Health and Aged Care joint venture for the acquisition and redevelopment of the Cottesloe Deaf School into a residential aged care facility and development site.
- Advised a superannuation consultant on the joint venture, preference equity funding, development and operational agreements for the acquisition, development, and operation of an aged care facility.
- Advised an investment company in relation to its internal corporate venture projects (Studio Startups).
- Advised various participants on joint ventures involving Indigenous/Aboriginal businesses (such as Supply Nation registered or certified businesses), including shareholder agreements, governance advice, structuring advice, and assisting with exits or restructures.
- Advised on a pastoral station acquisition of a 50% interest in cattle stations in the Kimberley, including due diligence, negotiating a joint venture agreement, finance documents, and transaction documents.
- Advised on the structuring and documentation of an aquaculture joint venture located in the Kimberley Aquaculture Development Zone involving a number of Traditional Owners in the Kimberley.
- Advised on a long-term operation agreement relating to a student accommodation project being developed by a private sector consortium, led by InfraRed Capital Partners.