

# Helen Sexton

## Consulting Principal

Bachelor of Laws  
Bachelor of Arts Communication Studies



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## Areas of expertise

Planning and Development  
Government Law  
Civil Litigation  
Employment and Industrial Relations

## Overview

Helen has extensive experience providing high-level advice and representing local and state government entities in complex and often sensitive areas of public interest including;

- environment and urban planning
- contract disputes
- property law
- civil and commercial litigation
- employment and industrial relations; and
- consumer protection.

## Expertise

### Planning and Development

Helen has handled complex matters involving significant urban development and infrastructure projects.

- Helen has had carriage of recent major litigation in both the land and environment and appeals courts;
- She has been closely involved in high level negotiation of major land and infrastructure transactions, from drafting to dispute resolution.

### Government Law

Helen has maintained multiple government positions during which time she has provided advice on legislative matters of significance.

- Helen has led a regulation & licensing practice which included settling all advice and supervising a significant body of litigation work for clients including the Commissioner for Revenue, Australian Federal Police and Office of Regulatory Services.
- Further, she contributed to the legal, political and policy-making process within the ACT Justice portfolio, with a focus on human rights law.

### Civil Litigation

Helen has hands on experience co-leading a civil law practice and supervising junior solicitors in areas including employment law, civil litigation, consumer protection and debt, tenancy and victims of crime matters.

Helen has acted on behalf of public authorities including emergency services and road authorities in several pieces of significant civil litigation involving both property and personal injury claims.

### Employment and Industrial Relations

Helen provides specialist advice on employment law issues and disputes. This has included representation and advocacy before the Fair Work Commission and Supreme Court; drafting employment contracts and related statutory instruments; and negotiating and drafting deeds of settlement in employment and contract disputes.

## Career Highlights

- Written and oral submissions adopted in formal judicial reasoning in several reported matters including Commissioner for Social Housing in the Act & Lowe [2013] ACAT 49.
- Advice on complex disputes resulting in avoidance of formal litigation in around 80% of matters
- 90% settlement or success rate in contested employment law disputes

