

The best stories are shared. Read about our Commercial Insurance team.



As an independent Australian firm with a long history and a big heart, we have a rich story to tell. Our spirit is built on the power of relationships with our people, clients and communities. We'd like to be part of your story and for you to be part of ours. You will:

- Join a proudly Australian firm with over 140 years of stability and sustained growth. Did we mention that we've been in the insurance industry for close on 120 of those 140 years? Not many firms can say it has that sort of history or that sort of commitment
- Become a trusted member of our national Commercial Insurance team, a practice that has grown exponentially in the past five years to become one of the pre-eminent practices in the market. You can be confident in that growth continuing as we never stop looking for opportunities to do more and be more
- Work with a loyal and exceptional client base – as they say, to know us is to love us. You will be involved in matters that will engage and challenge you and give you unparalleled opportunity to grow and deepen your expertise through collaboration with others just as passionate about insurance as you are.
- Enjoy a firm that makes it all about you – your career, your development, your life. You will have access to exceptional leaders and mentors who take the time to work with you and help you reach your true potential. You will also be able to take advantage of our market-leading training programs. Plus, you will be working with a fun-loving bunch of people who are ready to welcome you with open arms.

WHY JOIN SPARKE HELMORE?



How do we stack up?

9 offices | 29 partners | 199 employees | 13 specialty areas

- Aviation
- Contract Works, ISR and Agricultural Risk
- CTP
- Cyber Insurance
- Directors & Officers
- EPL / Workplace Risks
- Health Care
- Liability
- Life / Accident and Health
- Marine Insurance
- Professional Indemnity
- Recoveries
- Transport

We're honoured to have been acknowledged many times over the years for the calibre of our Commercial Insurance practice – for our commitment to an exceptional client experience, technical excellence as well as for the people who make our team what it is. We've won or been a finalist for Insurance Team of the Year awards for seven years straight and members of the team – junior and senior, lawyer and non-lawyer - have been up for individual awards in recognition of their dedication and expertise. Many of our lawyers feature in Chambers, Legal 500, Best Lawyers and Doyle's as leaders in their field.

As a firm, we're proud to be recognised as an Employer of Choice for Gender Equality by WGEA. Alongside our commitment to Diversity & Inclusion, we are also committed to giving back to the communities in which we live and work. We are a signatory to the voluntary National Pro Bono Target of an average of 35 pro bono hours per lawyer, which is a target we exceed each year. Our dedication to providing justice for vulnerable people led to us being a finalist for Pro Bono team of the year at the Lawyers Weekly Law Awards as well as a finalist for Corporate Citizen Firm of the Year at the Australasian Law Awards.



What do our team members say about us?

- *Values are certainly at the core of all discussions... I believe that this does contribute to the firm's culture in a very positive way.*
- *The people that work at this firm are incredibly kind.*
- *The reason why the culture here is so good comes down to one thing: the people.*
- *Our senior leaders genuinely want to improve the firm.*
- *The level of communication provided through the firm's channels means I feel engaged with the firm.*
- *[Sparke Helmore] attracts good clients and good people.*

Source: The Pulse Firm Engagement Survey 2023

Why are we different?

We get it. Lots of firms tell you they're different. We're confident that we really are because:

- We are one of the largest insurance practices in Australia, with a genuine national footprint of insurance experts across all our nine offices. We have dedicated boots on the ground, who pride themselves on knowing the local market inside and out. But that doesn't mean our people can't spread their wings and take up opportunities in other locations and that includes internationally too, through our membership of Global Insurance Law Connect.
- Many of our insurance partners are "lifers" – there is nowhere else they would rather be. That can also be said about many of our lawyers and non-lawyers. There's something about the culture of Sparke Helmore that makes you want to stick around for the long-haul. We don't churn and burn; that's not who we are. We're a firm that takes its values seriously and our people "walk the talk".
- We're the first choice for insurers who require deeply researched legal opinion balanced against sound commercial and strategic advice. We act for all the major Australian insurers and many global ones too, through our connection with the London market. We work hard to give every client outstanding personal service, thinking outside the box to deliver above and beyond their expectations. We've worked with many of our clients for many years, standing beside them through thick and thin. There's a mutual respect in our relationships and a shared passion for the betterment of the industry. Whether it's the good, the bad or the ugly, we're in it together and that's how we like it.

- We have kept insurance at the heart of the Sparke Helmore business. We saw many years ago that we needed to specialise and we set about making that happen – it hasn't always been easy, but we have kept at it because that is what our clients want. Around 50% of total firm revenue is from our insurance business, with approximately 50% of our total headcount working on insurance matters every day.
- Our London Market Next Generation Program is a gamechanger. The Program sees the emerging leaders in the team spend time working alongside clients in their London offices. With the current challenges with COVID-19, we've had to change things up a little and find new ways to maximise client engagement including instigating virtual secondments and other innovative ways to stay in touch.
- Looking after the talent we have is a priority. We train our leaders in unconscious bias to ensure performance, reward and promotion decisions are fair. We also have a succession planning and talent review process to identify and deliver pathways for our high performing employees at each career stage. Flexibility can be a bit of a "buzzword" but at Sparke Helmore we have flexibility training to enable everyone to balance work and personal obligations.

We'd like to be part of your story and for you to be part of ours.

What have we got to say?

We're committed to sharing knowledge with our clients and the market. You can view a list of our recent publications and podcasts on the Insurance Matters page of our [website](#). You can also take a look at our Sparke Helmore [LinkedIn page](#) to see all the things we are doing and issues we are passionate about including our support of the annual Dive In event.