



### Heath Brunton

**Partner**

heath.brunton@dlapiper.com

**Auckland**

T: +64 9 300 3848

M: +64 21 642 212

Heath Brunton is a partner in our New Zealand real estate team. He has been involved in real estate for close to 20 years including top tier international experience.

Heath advises clients on all aspects of property law. He is regularly involved in the acquisition and disposal of commercial, residential and agricultural property for development and investment. He has been involved in some of the largest design build lease agreements for office and industrial premises in New Zealand.

Heath also has particular interest and experience in large scale residential developments and mixed use schemes including urban regeneration and social and affordable housing projects.

He acts for listed entities, large public and private sector clients, financial institutions, receivers and liquidators, high net worth individuals and overseas investors.

- Real Estate
- Restructuring

- Real Estate

English

## LANGUAGES SPOKEN

- English

- Adviser to Foodstuffs on the design build lease of its new 65,000 m2 North Island distribution centre and 9,000 m2 head offices at Auckland International Airport.
- Advised Goodman on the design build lease of the Fonterra head offices at Wynyard Quarter, Auckland.
- Advised Fletcher Residential as developer member of the consortium bidding for Phase One of the Tamaki Large Scale Development Project.
- Advised Augusta in relation to the acquisition, development and syndication of the Mercury HQ at Broadway, Newmarket.
- Advised AgResearch in relation to the joint venture development of the Food Science Facility at Massey University.
- Advised Metroglass in relation to the design build lease of its industrial facility at Highbrook, Auckland.
- Advised Sumitomo in relation to the purchase of 30,000 hectares of Nelson region pine forests for \$370 million.

## CREDENTIALS

---

### Professional Qualifications

- Barrister and Solicitor of the High Court of New Zealand, 1999

### Recognitions

- Heath is ranked as a leading Real Estate lawyer in Chambers Asia-Pacific 2020, with Chambers noting that Heath is "a respected practitioner who advises on property portfolio management, developments, purchases and disposals". Clients report: "He is very commercial and responsive and he performed strongly on complicated and important real estate projects for us."

### Education

- University of Canterbury, LLB, 1999

### Memberships

- New Zealand Law Society
- Accredited member of the Property Law Section of the New Zealand Law Society

## INSIGHTS

---

### Publications

#### Data centers – A Case for New Zealand

29 April 2022

As data centers continue to dominate the global technology agenda, New Zealand is riding the wave of this boom. Globally recognised as a rare pandemic success story, New Zealand provides the ideal economic and political environment for data center providers to establish these power houses while keeping green.

---

#### Flashing traffic lights could signal the end of the statutory Covid-19 no access lease covenant

17 December 2021

The Covid-19 Response (Management Measures) Legislation Act 2021 (Act) came into force on 3 November 2021 and amends the Property Law Act 2007. In our latest update, we have summarised the impact of the temporary changes for landlords and tenants.

---

#### Do we have a contract?

27 MAY 2020

In the recent case of *Electrix Ltd v The Fletcher Construction Company Ltd* the High Court found against The Fletcher Construction Company Limited (**Fletchers**) in a case brought by an aggrieved subcontractor working on the Christchurch Justice and Emergency Services Precinct project. The case provides a window into the issues faced by those working on that project and the challenges that have dogged the industry over the last five years, in particular on large scale design and build projects. In addition to the procurement issues, the case also highlights issues surrounding the common practice of issuing letters of intent, prior to a full construction contract being entered into. In particular, what happens if the full construction contract is never entered into?

---

## NEWS

---

### **DLA Piper wins two awards in the beaton Client Choice Awards 2021 (New Zealand)**

23 March 2021

As voted by our clients, DLA Piper in New Zealand has been named the winners of two categories in the prestigious **beaton** Client Choice Awards 2021.

---

### **DLA Piper (New Zealand) recommended in the 2021 edition of the Legal 500 Asia Pacific**

18 January 2021

DLA Piper New Zealand has been recommended across a broad range of practice areas in the latest edition of the *Legal 500 Asia Pacific*, retaining Tier 1 rankings in both Investment Funds and Insurance.

---