



# Keith Stephenson Park Playground

Concept Design Report

Prepared for;



**MOUNT BARKER  
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

by JPE Design Studio

22028

July 2022  
RevD

# Contents

<b>Section</b>	<b>Page</b>
Return Brief	3
Existing Site	5
Concept Drivers	8
Concept Design	10
Materials & Selections	14



## Background

Located 33kms from Adelaide's CBD, Keith Stephenson Park is a large community reserve located in Mount Barker that is known for hosting major events (including Carols By Candlelight) and recognised for its significant planting and large trees that provide ample amounts of shade. Other key features of Keith Stephenson Park that make it an attractive place to visit are the walking trails, rotunda and the small creek.

The Keith Stephenson Park Playground currently consists of outdated play equipment and requires a significant upgrade to create a quality playspace to better meet the community's expectations and ensure its popularity and high levels of visitation moving into the future.



## Site Start-Up

The initial scope of the Keith Stephenson Park Playground project is set out in the JPE Tender Submission and Mount Barker District Council Briefing Documents. At a site start up meeting held on 28th of April 2022 several additional items and confirmation of scope was discussed. A summary of the meeting outcomes and are below.

- Address drainage issues on site (can be quite boggy in winter)
- Build upon previous nature play concept and Aboriginal cultural storytelling
- Explore integration of art
- Only piece of equipment / furniture to be retained is the Rope Climbing Tower
- Allow for basket swing to be disassembled and collected by local Rotary Club for re-use elsewhere
- Incorporate log rounds which are being sourced from felled trees on site
- Include sensory experiences
- Identify a key theme or identity for the Playground
- Integrate inclusive access and play throughout the Playground
- 3 x meetings with a specially assembled disability / inclusivity advisory committee
- Consider multiple shelters instead of one large shelter
- Designate bench seat for CWA plaque integration

## Scope Amendments

As a result of feedback from the wider community and the Advisors Group, amendments have been proposed to the concept as follows:

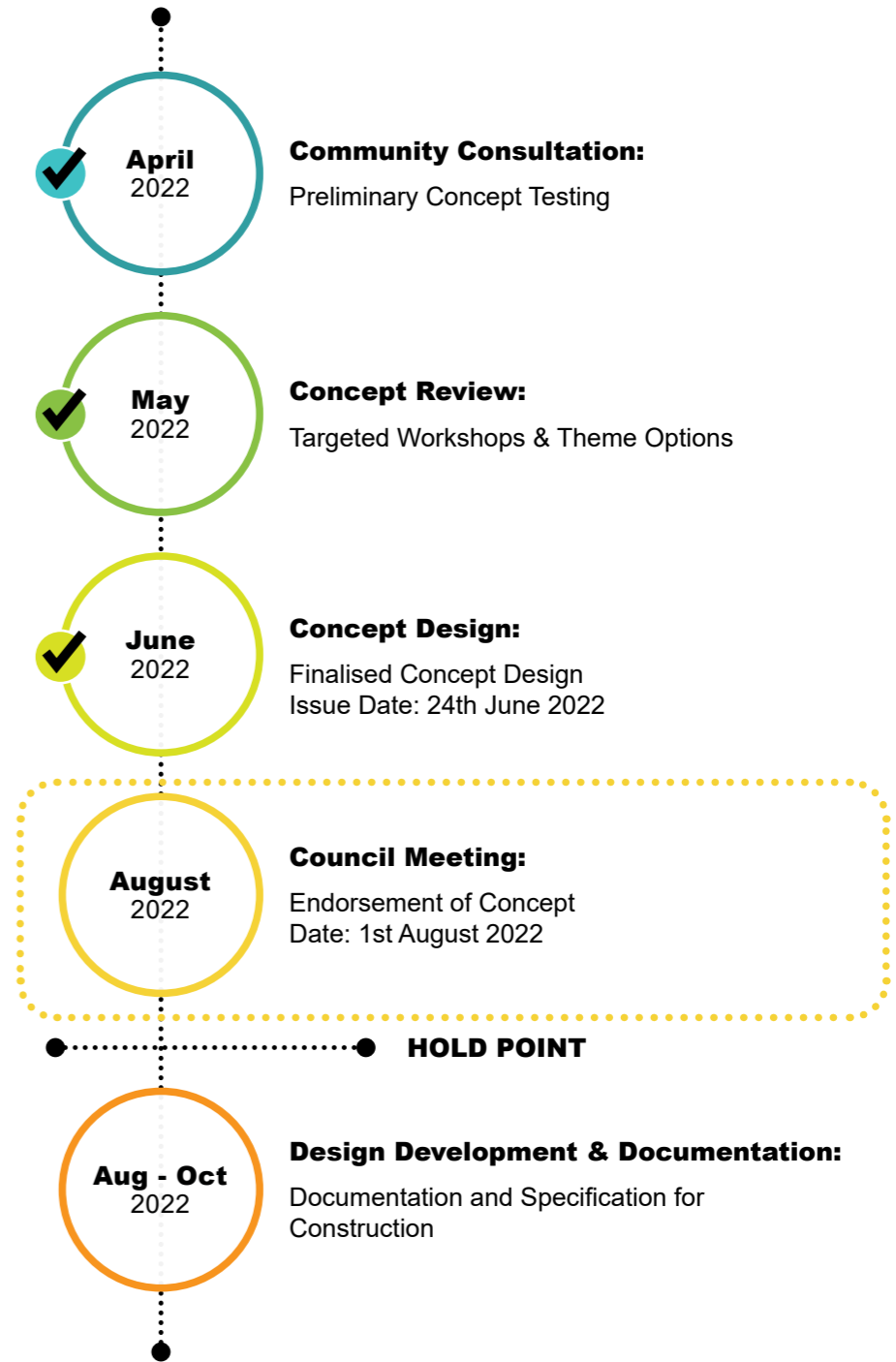
- Inclusion of shade sails over the playground
- Inclusion of water play in the nature play zone
- Inclusion of more seating around the play area
- Fencing around the children's play area
- Undergrounding of overhead power lines which traverse the playground and switchboards upgraded as this has been identified as a risk
- Include drinking fountains

## Budget

Item	Sum
Current Concept Design (original scope)	\$1,050,000
Undergrounding Services (additional scope)	\$90,000
Shade Sails (additional scope)	\$150,000
<b>Total Project Estimate with Change of Scope</b>	<b>\$1,290,000</b>

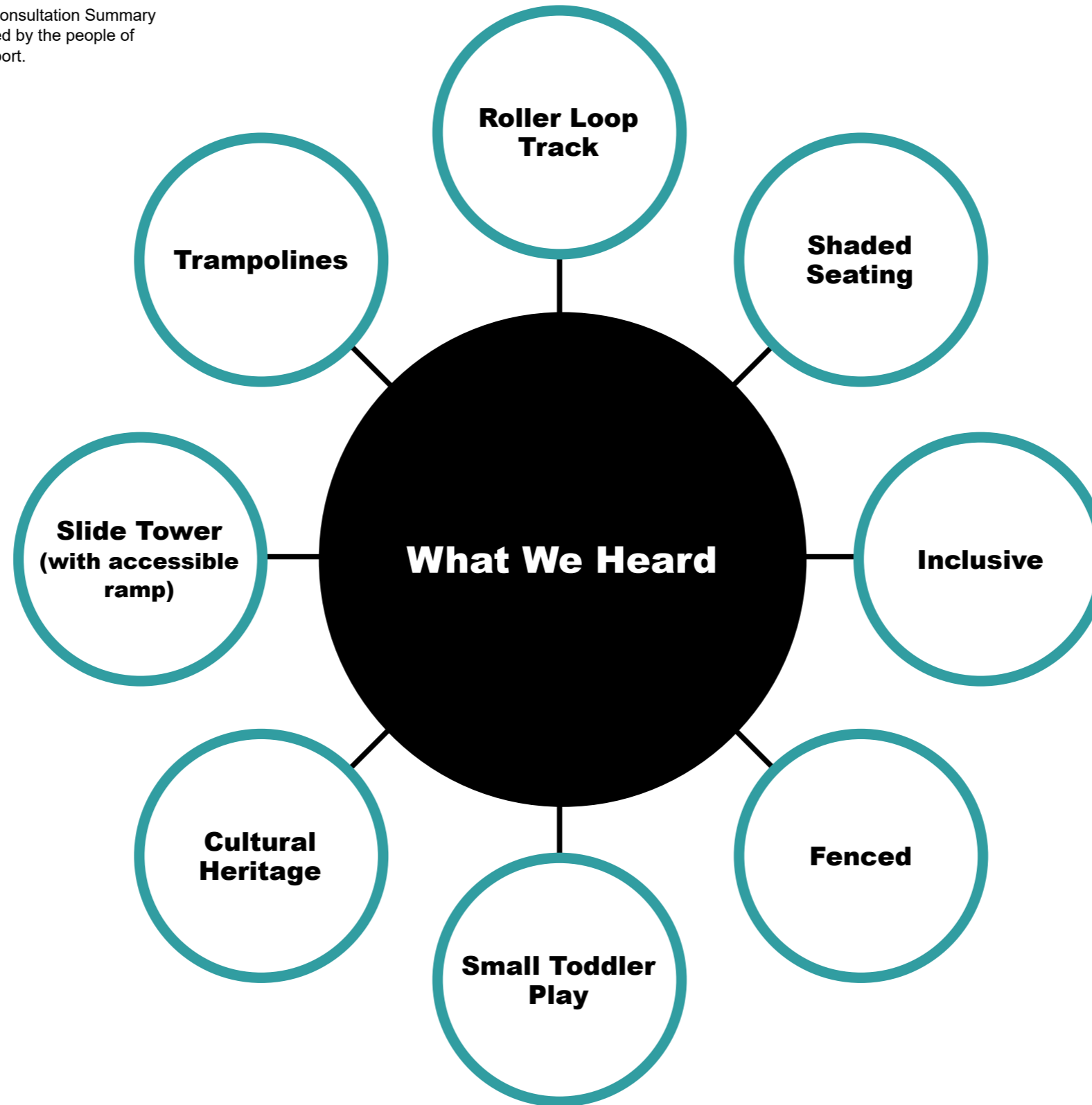
## Project Process

The following timeline illustrates the amended program after discussions with Council at the project Start Up:



## Consultation Summary

The following key themes were extracted from Council's Consultation Summary Report and reflect the major ideas and inclusions supported by the people of Mount Barker. Further insights can be found in the full Report.



## Site Conditions



playground lawn frontage - formal seating and informal grass seating opportunities



dappled shade - expansive cluster of existing trees - swale bridge crossing



nearby toilet facilities - clear line of sight



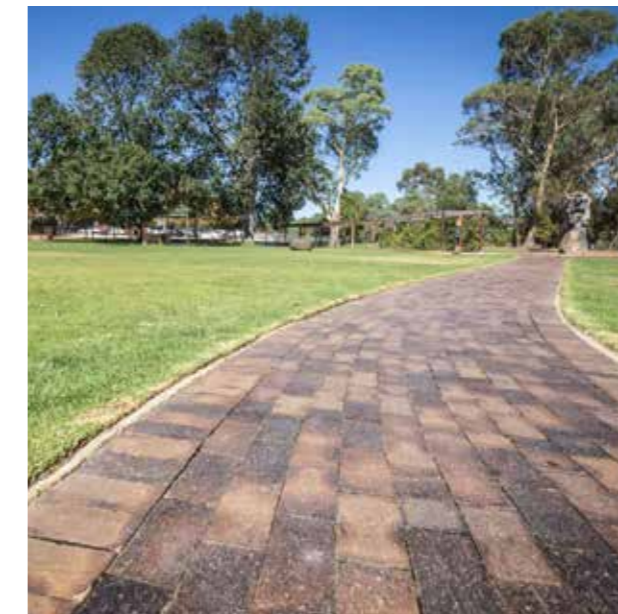
existing rope climb structure to be retained - rubber softfall to be replaced



dated existing play equipment - limited creative play opportunities - limited age range and inclusive offering



existing nearby rest node - high character and amenity to influence selections in playspace



existing paving character - clay pavers - earth tones

## Site Considerations

- ① FLOODING AND DRAINAGE ISSUES DURING WINTER
- ② IMPORTANT LINEAR TRAIL & PATH NETWORK TO GREATER PARK
- ③ ROPE CLIMB TOWER TO BE RETAINED
- ④ SWALE SERVES IMPORTANT DRAINAGE FUNCTION TO WHOLE SITE
- ⑤ EXISTING PUBLIC TOILETS
- ⑥ EXISTING TREES TO BE PROTECTED AND RETAINED
- ⑦ OPEN SPACE FOR PUBLIC EVENTS NEEDS TO BE MAINTAINED
- ⑧ CONNECTIONS THROUGH TO EXISTING CAR PARK
- ⑨ EXPOSED INTERFACE TO BUSY ADELAIDE ROAD



# Site Opportunities

- 1 CREEK CHARACTER COULD INFLUENCE THEMING
- 2 CREATE GATEWAYS AND ENTRY STATEMENTS
- 3 RE-SURFACE CLIMBING TOWER SOFTFALL
- 4 UTILISE NATURAL SHADE AND TREE GROVE CHARACTER
- 5 INTEGRATE SWALE AS PLAY FEATURE
- 6 RETURN AREA BACK TO OPEN GREEN SPACE
- 7 CREATE A BEACON OR DESTINATION VISIBLE FROM ADELAIDE RD
- 8 CREATE NEW PATH CONNECTIONS TO TIE INTO GREATER PARK
- 9 CLEAR CONNECTION TO PUBLIC TOILETS (OUTSIDE PLAY AREA)



## Concept Drivers

The below design drivers have underpinned and guided the development of the Concept Plan. These principles will be constantly referenced throughout the project to ensure the Council and community's vision for the site is being met.



### Original Intent

Ensure the original intent of the concept is being retained and the community's feedback and expectations are met



### Theme

Create a unified and memorable playspace that tells a story with an overarching theme



### Inclusivity

Provide spaces for all abilities, ages, interests and backgrounds. Something for everyone.



# Theme

## Creatures of the Creek

Drawing on the close relationship of the playground to Western Flat Creek; the proposed theme explores the unique animals and biodiversity found in the riparian zones of the Adelaide Hills.



- oversize reeds
- abstract oversize animals
- footprints
- creek bed
- rock scrambles

# Landscape Concept Plan

- 1 Path Mounds
- 2 Open Lawn Space
- 3 Brown Tree Frog Sculpture
- 4 New Path Connection to Linear Path with Bins & Drink Fountain
- 5 Single Gate
- 6 Existing Rope Tower
- 7 In-Ground Carousel
- 8 1.2m High Slide Bedway
- 9 1:20 Path to Slide Summit
- 10 Basket Swing, Toddler Swing & Standard Swing
- 11 Double Entry Gate
- 12 Footprints in Concrete Path
- 13 Long-necked Turtle Climbing Sculpture
- 14 In-Ground Trampoline
- 15 Paved Recreation Zone with Bins, Drink Fountain, Shelter & Seating



- 16 Dry Creek Bed
- 17 Cubbies & Loose Parts Play
- 18 Sandpit
- 19 Public Toilet
- 20 Climbing Trees
- 21 Wobble Log & Log Scramble



# Example Images



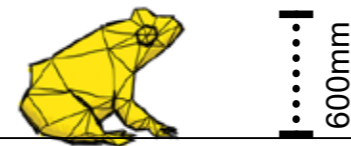
# Custom Play

## Animal Sculptures

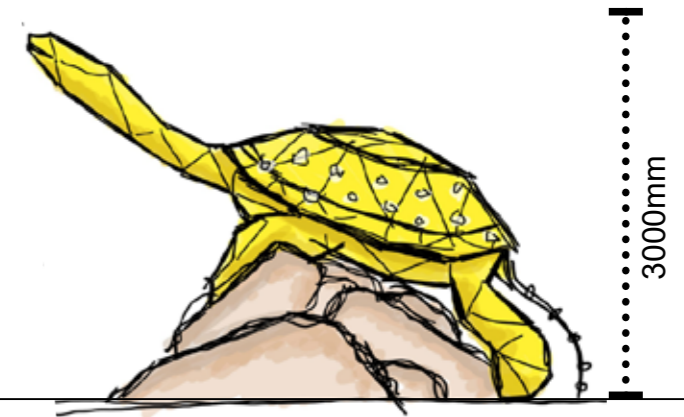


South Australian  
Riparian Animal Sculptures

Brown Tree Frog



Long-necked Turtle



## Play Selections



Trampoline



Carousel



Slide



Adventure Track



Swings

# Play Selections



Acoustic Features



Log Stilts & Steppers



Sensory Planting



Cubbies



Tactile Path Surfaces



Rope Tower (Existing)

# Selections

## Furniture



Accessible BBQ (Christies)



Loaf Bike Rack (Arketype)



Drink Fountain (SFA)



Precinct Furniture (SPARK)

## Fencing



Weldmesh Fence with Climbing Plants

**Surfaces**



**Pine Chip Softfall**



**Exposed Aggregate Concrete**



**Bitumen**



**Irrigated Turf (Sterile Kikuyu)**



**EPDM Rubber Softfall**



**Slim Clay Pavers**



**Compacted Sand**



## Planting Palette

### Trees

- Eucalyptus 'Euky Dwarf'
- Eucalyptus 'Silver Princess'
- Ginkgo biloba



### Understorey

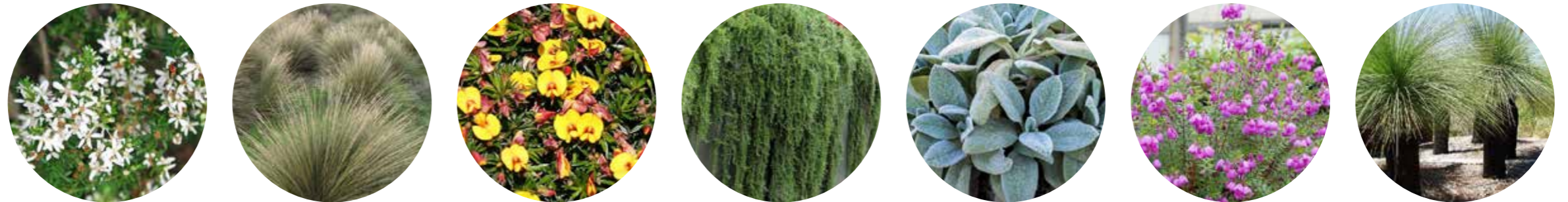
- Adenanthos 'Silver Lining'
- Banksia ashbyi dwarf
- Chrysocephalum apiculatum
- Cyperus gymnocaulos
- Darwinia citriodora
- Dianella 'Breeze'
- Dichondra repens



- Eremophila 'Kalbarri Carpet'
- Ficinia nodosa
- Hardenbergia violacea
- Hibbertia scandens
- Lavendula 'Grosso'
- Lomandra 'Tanika'
- Mentha australis



- Olearia ramulosa
- Poa 'Eskadale'
- Pultenaea pedunculata
- Rosmarinus officianalis prostrate
- Stachys byzantina 'Silver Carpet'
- Tetratea 'Fairy Bells'
- Xanthorrhoea australis





# JPE Design Studio

Architecture | Interior Design | Landscape Architecture | Urban Design

[www.jpe.com.au](http://www.jpe.com.au)

(08) 8406 4000

Level 4/19 Gilles Street,  
Adelaide SA 5000