

6th October, 2020

MEDIA RELEASE

A new look @ Regional Development Australia Adelaide Metro!

It's an exciting time for RDA Adelaide Metro as we officially announce the appointment of our new CEO - Karen Raffen who is now 6 months into the role driving a change agenda, and welcome our new Board Member – Andrew Cooper.

RDA Adelaide Metro is one of 8 RDA's in the State covering the geographical region of 17 councils from The City of Playford through to the City of Onkaparinga. Its key roles are to facilitate connections and economic development opportunities between Metro and the Regions, and to champion investment and project initiative for the State with its key stakeholders, including the Federal Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development & Communication.

Karen Raffen was most recently the CEO of Brand South Australia, and previously CEO at Perks Accountants & Wealth Advisers, and CEO at Toop&Toop Real Estate. She brings a broad knowledge of South Australia across all sectors and its key stakeholders. Already she has launched a new website, created a new Strategic Business Plan and is working closely with the other 7 regional RDA's to drive awareness of the economic development opportunities for future growth.

Andrew Cooper is the founder and Managing Director of Commercial Alliance Service which provides clients with strategic planning, preparation for growth and advice on accessing new markets and becoming export ready. He has more than 30 years in senior executive positions with major ASX listed companies and global manufacturers, and spent considerable time working internationally as Country Director for major subsidiaries.

Andrew most recently was the Director for Future Industries and Advanced Manufacturing for the South Australian Government's Investment Agency within the Department for Trade, Tourism and Investment (DTTI) focussed on bringing investment and the establishment of new and/or international businesses into the State.

Contact details are below:

Board Member : RDA Adelaide Metro

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CEO : RDA Adelaide Metro

Karen Raffen – 0412 300 119

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As we welcome both Karen and Andrew officially, we are also on the hunt for suitably experienced Board Members in both the Energy and Defence sectors to fill a further two board seat vacancies.

It's been a big 2020 already and we are looking forward to a fresh and strategic future.

Jan Turbill

Chair : RDA Adelaide Metro

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