Decision Report Item Number **20.1**

RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Report Date: 20 October 2026
Reporting Officer: Interim Chief Executive Officer, Bridget Mather
Responsible Manager: Interim Chief Executive Officer, Bridget Mather

Recommendation (Public) – Confidential Order

20.1.1 *Pursuant to section 90(2) of the Local Government Act 1999 (the **Act**) the Council orders that all members of the public except Interim Chief Executive Officer Bridget Mather, Director Assets & Infrastructure James McInnes and Executive Support Officer Lexie O'Loughlin be excluded from attendance at the meeting for the report titled 'Recruitment and Appointment of Chief Executive Officer' dated 20 October 2026.*

20.1.2 *The Council is satisfied that pursuant to sections 90(2) and 90(3)(a)&(h) of the Act the information to be received, discussed and considered in relation in this Agenda Item is information the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of a person (living or dead).*

Recommendation – Confidential

20.1.3 *That Council receive and note the report titled 'Recruitment and Appointment of Chief Executive Officer' dated 20 October 2026.*

20.1.4 *That Council resolve to offer Ms Anne Champness the position of Chief Executive Officer for the District Council of Karoonda East Murray, for an employment contract period of five (5) years.*

20.1.5 *That Council delegates to Mayor Caroline Phillips, supported by The Recruitment Consultant Mr Mark McShane, to negotiate with the preferred candidate regarding the total employment package and related matters that is determined by the South Australian Remuneration Tribunal.*

20.1.6 *That Mayor Caroline Phillips is authorised, on behalf of Council, to sign the contract of employment with Ms Anne Champness.*

Recommendation (Public) – Confidential Order

20.1.7 *That having considered the report titled 'Recruitment and Appointment of Chief Executive Officer' dated 20 October 2026 in confidence under sections 90(2) and 90(3)(a)&(h) of the Local Government Act 1999 (the **Act**), the Council, pursuant to section 91(7) of that Act, orders that the report, attachments and minutes be retained in confidence but upon the appointment of the Chief Executive Officer be released.*

CONFIDENTIAL

20.1.8 *That pursuant to section 91(9)(c) of the Act the Council delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the power to review and revoke this Confidentiality Order.*

CONFIDENTIAL