



# **BUSINESS PAPER**

## **Special Council Meeting Thursday, 30 April 2026**

**I hereby give notice that Special Council Meeting will be held on:**

**Date: Thursday, 30 April 2026**

**Time: 8:30 AM**

**Location: Winton Shire Council Board Room**

**Louise Knol  
Chief Executive Officer**

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- 1      ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**
- 2      APOLOGIES**
- 3      DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

### 3 DECISIONAL REPORTS

#### 3.1 RECRUITMENT OF AN INTERIM / ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**File Number:** 204937  
**Author:** Louise Knol, Chief Executive Officer  
**Authoriser:** Louise Knol, Chief Executive Officer  
**Attachments:** Nil  
**Meeting Date:** 30 April 2026

#### Corporate and Operational Plan Consideration

Stream	Sub Stream	Organisational Responsibility	Strategy/Planning Area
5 - Making It Happen	Governance	Chief Executive Officer	CEO Recruitment

**Budget Reference:** 2025-2026 Operational Budget – Recruitment Costs

#### SUMMARY

Winton Shire Council Chief Executive Officer, Ms Louise Knol tendered her resignation with Council on Monday 27 April 2026 with Ms Knol's last day of work being 29 May 2026.

Council will now commence the process of recruitment for an Interim / Acting Chief Executive Officer for a period of up to 12 months. This process will be undertaken in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009* and Council's CEO Recruitment Policy and Operational Guidelines.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive the report.

That Council:

1. Authorise the Mayor and Deputy Mayor to engage an external recruitment agency to assist with the recruitment process for an Interim / Acting Chief Executive Officer for a period of up to 12 months, with the procurement process to be undertaken in accordance with Council's Procurement Policy, and with administrative support from the Executive Manager Corporate Services;
2. Establish a selection panel for the recruitment and recommendation of a preferred candidate for the position of Interim / Acting Chief Executive Officer, comprising the Mayor and all Councillors, with support from the appointed external recruitment agency and the Executive Manager Corporate Services;
3. Note that the recruitment process for the Interim / Acting Chief Executive Officer will be undertaken in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009*, Council's Chief Executive Officer Recruitment Policy, and associated Operational Guidelines; and
4. Note that the appointment of the Interim / Acting Chief Executive Officer will be the subject of a further report to Council for consideration and resolution.

**REPORT**

Winton Shire Council Chief Executive Officer, Ms Louise Knol tendered her resignation with Council on Monday 27 April 2026 with Ms Knol's last day of work being 29 May 2026. Ms Knol has advised Council *that this was not a decision made lightly and has been influenced by family health reasons along with the opportunity to take up a Chief Executive Officer role closer to her home in Tropical North Queensland.*

Council will now commence the process of recruitment for an Interim / Acting Chief Executive Officer for a period of up to 12 months. This process will be undertaken in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009* and Council's Policies and Operational Guidelines and Procedures.

**RISK MANAGEMENT**

This matter is considered Risk Level Medium 10 in accordance with Council's Risk Assessment Tool.