

## DIRECTOR, RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

- Australian critical infrastructure organisation
- Lead strategic research and development
- Champion a culture of innovation

### About the role

The Director, Research & Development is a newly created position reporting to the Chief Executive Officer. This role at auDA will play a pivotal role in leading auDA's research and development program, and coordinating the delivery of auDA's 'Innovation' strategic objective to utilise new technologies and new approaches to ensure the financial sustainability of auDA as a self-funded not-for-profit organisation, and to improve the utility of .au. The appointee will explore and develop solutions such as an online identity service linked to .au domain names, privacy protections for registrants, the use of AI to augment domain integrity, and internal productivity enhancement tools and new ways of working. Critical to success will be being instrumental in fostering a culture of innovation. Supporting auDA's commitment to driving positive public impact, the role oversees the grant programs designed to advance new knowledge and support digital inclusion. Contributing to positively shaping the ecosystem in which auDA operates, the Director will invest in building strategic partnerships with research institutions and industry partners, and engage with global peers.

### About you

A highly effective leader in research management and commercially viable product development, including leadership in digital R&D, your experience has ideally been gained in innovation-centered or platform-based companies. This may include technology-enabled utilities, SaaS, fintech, software product development, internet infrastructure or similar organisations. Your technical fluency covers DNS architecture and emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and quantum computing. Underpinning your proactive approach to identifying new and viable digital service opportunities is your ability to use data-driven analysis to translate research findings into practical solutions. Possessing exceptional communication and stakeholder management skills, you are effective in articulating complex technical concepts to diverse audiences as well as navigating multi-stakeholder environments. A champion of innovation and naturally a cross-organisational collaborator, you have contributed significantly to building culture and enthusiasm for new ways of working. You relish the opportunity to apply your deep expertise, commercial mind set and outstanding people skills in protecting and advancing this critical asset for all Australians.

### How to apply

auDA is partnering with SHK on this key appointment. For more information, please contact **David Pleydell** at SHK via email on [david.pleydell@shk.com.au](mailto:david.pleydell@shk.com.au), quoting reference **3485237**. Direct and third-party applications will be forwarded to SHK.